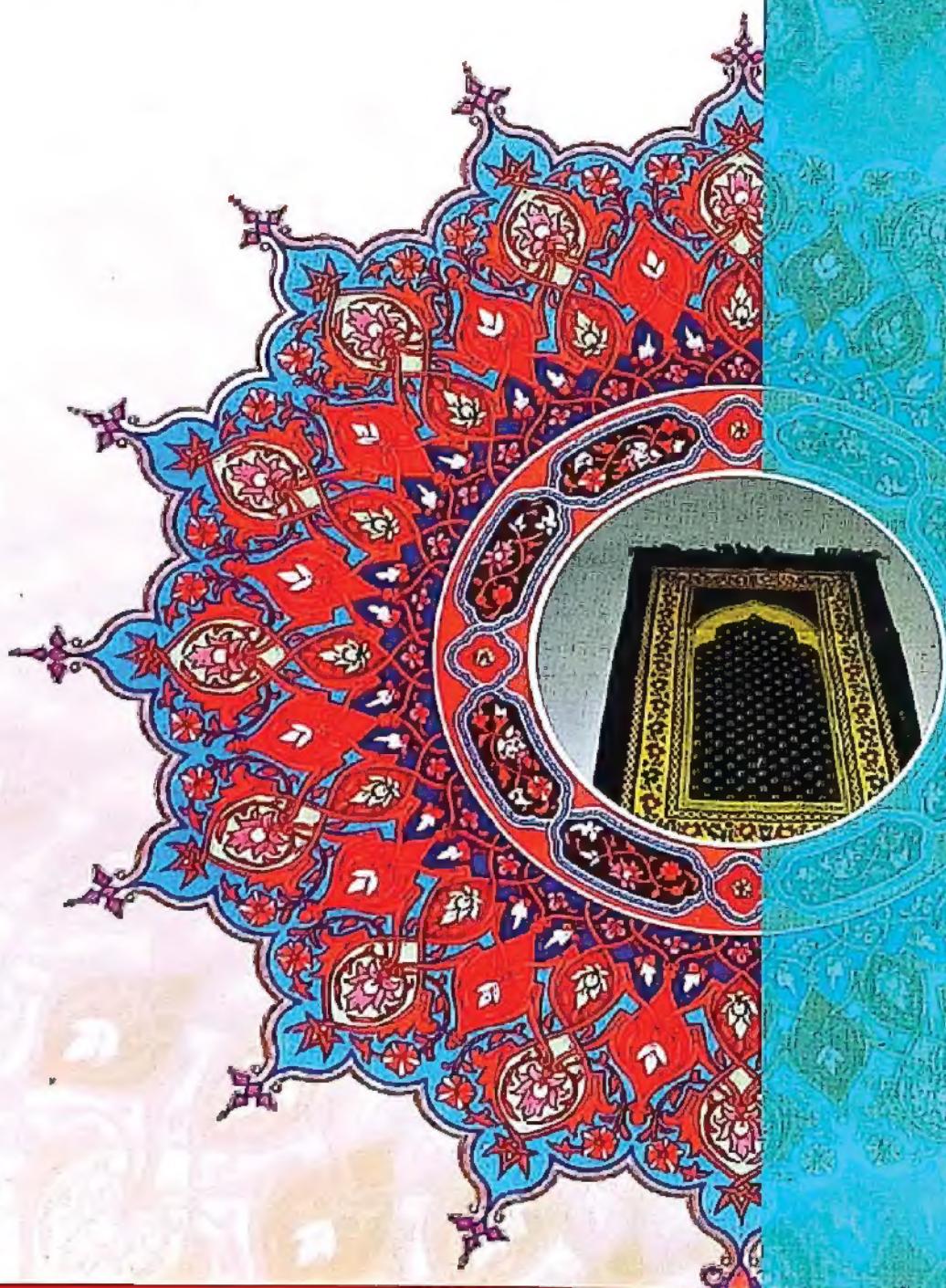


القدوة الحسنة في صلوة النساء

The Salah of *Women*



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The Salah of Women



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله الذي جعل فقه الأحاديث نوراً للمختار والصادق والسلام على سيد المختار محمد الذي هو بين المختارين كالنور الذي ينير الأعمدة بسماحة المختار ومن هم الذين اختاروا من المهدى واستنبطوا ما أحاديث سيد الأولاد ونحوها لغير العارفين
وانتهال المغفلين ونأوالهم الخاطئين أما بعد

Translation:

All praises are due to Allâh who made the understanding of the Ahâdîth an illumination for the one who is confused and salutations upon His beloved and chosen one, Muhammad ﷺ, who is like a huge ocean among the creation and who has been sent with authentic Ahâdîth. Salutations also upon his followers who adopted the paths of guidance and held firmly onto the Ahâdîth of the leader of mankind. They negated the interpolations of those who exceed the limits from the Ahâdîth, the falsehood of the wrong ones and the misinterpretation of the ignorant ones.

Introduction

Salâh is one of the most important fundamentals of Islam. Rasûlullâh ﷺ has emphasized its importance in numerous ahâdith. After Imân (belief in Allâh and His Messenger ﷺ), salâh is the most important pillar of Islam. It will be the first action about which one will be questioned on the Day of Judgement as Abû Hurairah رضي الله عنه has reported:

عن أبى هريرة رضى الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم اول ما يحاسب به
العبد يوم القيمة الصلاة^١

Translation:

Abū Hurairah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ reports that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said,
"The first act for which a person will be questioned
on the Day of Judgement will be salâh."^٢

Anas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ reports that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said,

عن أنس رضى الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم المرأة إذا صلت خمسها
وصامت شهرها وأحصنت فرجها وأطاعت بعلها فلنتدخل من أي أبواب الجنة شاءت^٣

"When a woman performs her five daily salâh, fasts in
Ramadân, remains chaste and obeys her husband, she
will enter jannah from whichever door she pleases."

Due to the importance of this act of worship, it is

^١ حاسع الترمذى من ٩٦ السنة الباكتانية و حدثت ٤١٢ من ١٦٨٢ دل المسلم، وأخرجه ابو داود
واسمه عن أبى هريرة و لم يدارى و سكت عليه المذرى في المختصر.

^٢ Note that the references of all narrations have been inserted in Arabic in the footnotes. The author's name and details of the publisher can be found in the bibliography.

^٣ رواه أبو نعيم في الحلية - سننكرة المصباح من ٢٨١ السنة الباكتانية و ج ٢ من ٢٢٢٨ دل المذكر بورث - أخرجه البزار و قال المؤمن فيه رواه من المراجع و تقد احمد و حامدة و قال ابن معين
و هم في هذا الحديث و ينفيه رجال الصحيح و للحديث شروطه انظر مجمع الرواد ٢٠٦/١

imperative that one carries it out according to the sunnah of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Every minute detail should be meticulously followed so that one's salâh can be acceptable in the court of Allâh.

In Sharîah, many of the laws that apply to females are different to those that apply to males. For example, a woman is not permitted to travel without a *mahram*¹ while a male is permitted to do so. Likewise, there are many other laws that are applicable to one gender and not to the other. A whole chapter has been devoted in this book to highlight some of the differences.

Similarly, the method of performing salâh for females is slightly different to that of males. This will be proven in the light of the ahâdîth (traditions) of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, the statements of the Sahâbah رضي الله عنه and the learned scholars of Islam.

There is a group among the Muslims called the *Ghair Mugallidîn*² who claim that there is no difference in their salâhs. Their women perform salâh in exactly the same manner as the males. However, this is due to their gross

¹ The meanings of all Islamic terms have been explained in the glossary. Please refer to it at the end of the book.

² Those who claim to practise on the ahâdîth and who do not follow any particular Imâm. They are also referred to as Ahle Hadith, Lâ-Mazhabis or Salafis which is a misnomer because they do not adopt the practices of the pious predecessors.

ignorance.

Women who adopt any of the schools of thought of the four Imâms viz. Shâfi'i, Mâlikî, Hanbalî or Hanafî Mazhab, should be completely at ease that the method in which they perform their salâh is correct and in accordance to the hadîth of Rasûlullâh ﷺ as will be proven in the ensuing pages. They should not be misled by the ignorant women who imitate males in performing their salâh, especially in the two *harams* of Makkah Mukarramah and Madînah Munawwarah.

In chapter one, the detailed method of salâh has been outlined. One who is only looking for the method of performing salâh without going into any detailed proofs will find this chapter very helpful. Chapter two discusses some of the differences in the laws of Islam between males and females. In chapter three, the detailed proofs from the ahâdîth regarding certain postures that are adopted by females have been mentioned. Chapter four is devoted to the statements of the jurists regarding the different postures of females in salâh while chapter five discusses the issue of women attending the salâh in the musjid.

The author makes an earnest duâ to Allâh to accept this humble effort and make it a means of guidance for all the Muslims. آمين

CHAPTER ONE

METHOD OF SALÂH

In this chapter, we discuss in detail the manner in which salâh has to be performed by females as outlined by the Hanafi jurists in the light of the *ahâdîth* of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, the *âthâr* of the Sahâbah رضي الله عنه and the Tâbi'în (ابن حمزة).

Before Beginning Salâh

Ensure that the body, clothes and place of salâh is clean. One must be in a state of *wudû*. One must perform salâh during the proper salâh times. It is makrûh to unnecessarily delay the salâh. The most appropriate manner would be to begin your salâh as soon as the azân has been called out from the musjid. One can thereafter continue with the household chores. Do not let other engagements cause a delay in your salâh.

Apart from the face, hands and feet, the rest of the body must be covered. Women should cover themselves properly using a sheet or cloak so that the head, neck, chest, arms, shoulders, thighs and shins are covered. If the face, hands and feet are also covered, salâh will be valid. If one uses such a thin scarf or burqah from which the head, neck and throat are visible, and similarly, if the arms, elbows and shins are visible, salâh will not be valid. Accordingly, one should take great care in ensuring that the entire body is thoroughly covered.

If during salâh, a quarter of any part of the body besides the face, hands and feet is exposed for the duration in which سبّحان رب الْعَظِيمِ can be recited three times, the salâh will not be valid. If less than a quarter of the limbs was exposed, the salâh will be valid but it is sinful to do so.

It is *makrûh* to bend the head forwards and make the head touch the chest. It is also *makrûh* to bend the chest. One should stand completely upright.

The Procedure of Performing Salâh

Stand straight facing the *Qiblah* with your gaze fixed on the place of sajdah. The toes must also face the Qiblah. It is contrary to the sunnah to make the feet face outwards away from the direction of the Qiblah. Keep the feet together.⁶

Make an intention in the heart that you are performing a certain salâh eg. the fard of Fajr. It is not necessary to utter the intention verbally. Raise the hands to the shoulders without taking them out of the cloak or sheet. Women should not raise their hands to their ears.

The palms should face the Qiblah with the fingers kept straight. Do not bend the head forwards. Recite اللهم آتني when raising the hands. Then place the hands on the chest without making a circle with the fingers of the right

hand around the left hand. Place the right palm on the back of the left palm, keeping the fingers close together. Women should not place their hands below their navels.

The Standing Posture (Qiyâm)

Recite:

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ
وَسَلَّلَ حَذْكَ وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ

Translation:

“O Allâh, You are pure and praiseworthy. Your name is lofty and Your greatness is elevated and there is none besides You.”

This is called *thanâ* (ثناء). Remember that a woman will recite all these du'âs including the Qurânic verses silently even though it may be a *jahri salâh* (one in which the recitation is done aloud).

Then recite:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

Translation:

“I seek refuge in Allâh from the rejected satan.”

This is called *ta'awwuz* (تَوَذُّ).

Follow this by reading:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Translation:

"I begin in the name of Allâh, the most beneficent, the most merciful."

This is called *tasmiah* (تسبيح).

Thereafter, recite Sûrah Fâtihah and say Âmîn (آمين).

Then recite:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

and a sûrah or a minimum of three verses of the Holy Qurâن.

If you are behind the Imâm, then only recite:

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ
وَتَعَالَى حَدُوكَ وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ

and remain silent thereafter. If the Imâm is reciting the Qurâن, listen attentively to the recitation.

Women should recite Sûrah Fâtihah and a sûrah silently in every salâh. The recitation of the Qur'anic verses is called *qirâ'ah* (قراءة).

Do not move any part of the body unnecessarily. The more still one stands, the better it is. If one has to scratch anywhere out of necessity, use one hand only. However,

it is better to avoid such an act.

Do not place all the pressure on one leg only and leave the other leg free. Place equal pressure on both legs.

If one has to yawn, try to suppress it as much as possible.

The gaze should be on the place of sajdah in the standing position. Do not look around.

Once the recitation is complete, this heralds the end of the standing position, *qiyâm* (قِيَام).

Rukû (Bowing Down)

Keep the following factors in mind when going into *rukû* (رُكُوع):

When one has completed the *qirâ'ah*, one should say, ﴿اَنْعَم﴾ and go into *rukû*. Begin reciting ﴿اَنْعَم﴾ when you start bowing down and complete the recital of ﴿اَنْعَم﴾ when you reach the position of *rukû*.

Women should bow down slightly, just enough for the hands to touch the knees. Do not bend down so much that the back becomes completely straight like the males. Keep the fingers together and place them on the knee. Do not grasp the knees by spreading out the fingers as the males do. Bend the

knees slightly to the front and keep your elbows tucked into your sides.

Remain in the position of *rukû*, for the minimum duration of reciting the following words three times with ease:

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّ الْمَظْلُومِينَ

Translation:

“Pure are You, O my Sustainer, the great.”

Keep your gaze on your feet while in *rukû*. Keep the feet close to each other.

Standing up from rukû

Stand up completely straight when you rise from *rukû*. This posture is called *qaumah* (قرمة). Your gaze must be on the place of *sajdah*. As you move into the standing position, recite:

سَمِعَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ

Translation:

“Allâh has heard the one who praised Him.”

If you do not stand up properly and merely make a sign of standing up, it is not sufficient and your salâh will not be valid. Only after standing up erect, can you go down into *sajdah*. Recite the following words while standing:

رَبَّكَ وَلَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ

Translation:

"O my Sustainer, praise is only for You."

One can also recite:

رَبَّكَ لَنْ تَفْتَأِرَنَّ حَتَّىٰ يَقْبَلَنَّكَ

Translation:

"O my Sustainer, only You are worthy of excessive, excellent and blessed praises."

Or recite:

لَهُمْ رَبَّكَ لَنْ تَفْتَأِرَنَّ عَنِ الْمُشْكُونَ وَمَنْ لَا يَرْجِعُ

وَمَنْ كَانَ مِنْ مُنْتَهٰى

Translation:

"O Allah, my Sustainer, You are worthy of praises that fill the skies and the earth and whatever else You desire."

Sajdah

Say سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ and go into sajdah (سُجُود). Begin reciting سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ when you start going down and complete the round of سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ when you reach the position of

sajdah. When going into sajdah, first place your knees on the ground, then your hands, then your nose and then your forehead. Both the forehead and the nose should touch the ground. The fingers and toes should face the Qiblah. Contract yourself completely by making your thighs touch your stomach, your arms should touch your sides and take your legs out to the right side. Keep your fingers in the direction of the Qiblah with your arms and elbows on the ground.

Recite the following words a minimum of three times:

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّ الْأَعْمَالِ

Translation:

"O my Sustainer, You are pure and most high."

One may read the above five, seven or more times. Then rise up from sajdah and sit down with ease. The sitting position is called *jalsah* (جلسة). It is sinful to go into the second sajdah without sitting up properly. One has to repeat the salāh if *jalsah* is not made. Sit on the left buttock, take the feet out to the right and keep the right thigh on the left thigh. The feet must be kept horizontally on the ground and not kept erect. Keep the hands on the thighs with the fingers close together. The gaze must be focussed on the lap. Sit for the duration of reciting at least once *Subḥanā Rabbil A'lamīn*. It is also permissible

to recite:

اللَّهُمَّ اهْفِنْنِي وَارْحَمْنِي وَاحْسِنْنِي وَاهْدِنِي وَارْزُقْنِي

Translation:

"O Allâh, forgive me, have mercy on me, help me, guide me and sustain me."

Then prostrate for a second time (*sajdah*) by first placing the hands, then the nose and forehead. When rising up from *sajdah*, first raise the forehead, then the nose, then the hands and finally the knees.

Do not lean on the ground when rising. However, it is permissible to lean due to illness, old age or if your body is heavy. The end of the second *sajdah* heralds the end of the first *rak'at*.

The Second Rak'at

After standing up from *sajdah*, recite Bismillâh, Sûrah Fâtihah and another sûrah or at least three verses of the Holy Qur'ân. Then complete the second *rak'at* as you have done in the first. After coming up from the second *sajdah*, sit as described

جامع الترمذى ج ١ ص ٦٣ النسخة الباكتانية و حدیث ٢٨٤ من ١٦٦٦ مدار السلام.
و انظر ح ابو داود و ابن ماجه و الماكم و قتال محبع الاستاد و وافقه الفرعى ١/٢٦٢ و كل ذلك
صححه المغاطى فى شرحه على ابن ماجه ٥٠١/٥.

above for the *jalsah* position. If this is a two raka'at salāh, this will be the final sitting position which is called *qa'dah akhīrah* (قَدْهُ اخِيرَة).

Note that raising the hands to the ears, *thand* and *ta'awwuz* are not recited in the second or subsequent raka'at.

The Final Sitting (Qa'dah)

This is the same as *jalsah* as previously explained. Recite *Al-Tahiyyat* as follows:

الْتَّحِيَّاتُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَوَاتُ وَالطَّيَّبَاتُ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ السَّلَامُ
عَلَيْنَا وَعَلَىٰ مَنْ يَادِ اللَّهِ الصَّالِحُونَ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ رَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّداً عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

Translation:

"All our oral, physical and monetary prayers are only for Allāh. Salutations to you, O Prophet, and Allāh's peace and His blessings be upon you. Blessings of Allāh be upon us and on all those worshippers who are pious. I testify that there is none to be worshipped but Allāh and I testify that Muhammad ﷺ is His worshipper and Messenger.

When one reaches the words, *إِنَّ لَا إِلَهَ* raise the right index finger and place it down when saying, *إِلَّا اللَّهُ*.

When raising the index finger, make a circle with the thumb and the middle finger. The two small fingers must be closed. The index finger must be

pointed towards the Qiblah and not completely straight skywards. When you lower the index finger, keep the other fingers as they were when you raised the index finger.

After reciting *Al-Tahiyat*, recite the following *salat (durud)*:

اللهم مثل علني مُحَمَّداً رَّفَقَى إِلَيْهِ مُحَمَّداً كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى "إِلَيْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَسِينٌ فَاجْعِلْنِي إِنَّكَ حَسِينٌ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى "إِلَيْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَسِينٌ فَاجْعِلْنِي إِنَّكَ حَسِينٌ
إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَسِينٌ فَاجْعِلْنِي

Translation:

"O Allah, send Your mercy on Muhammad ﷺ and on his family as You have sent Your mercy on Ibrāhīm ﷺ and his family. No doubt, You are great and praiseworthy. O Allah, send Your blessings on Muhammad ﷺ and on his family as You have blessed Ibrāhīm ﷺ and his family. No doubt, You are great and praiseworthy."

Then recite the following *dud*:

اللهم إِلَيْكَ طَلَّتْ نَفْسِي طَلَّتْ مَكْبُرَةً لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ لَا تَنْهَا لِي مَلْهُوْةً مِّنْ عَذَابِكَ
إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْمُفْزُزُ الرَّحِيمُ

Translation:

"O Allah, indeed I have wronged myself tremendously and no one forgives sins except You,

Therefore forgive me, forgiveness from Your side. Undoubtedly, You are most forgiving and merciful."

One can also read the following *du'a* or any other *du'a* contained in the Qur'an and Ahādīth:

رَبَّنَا إِنَّا عَلَى الدُّنْيَا حَسِنَةٌ وَرَبِّنَا الْأَمْرَةُ حَسِنَةٌ رَبِّنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

Translation:

"O our Sustainer, grant us good in this world as well as the hereafter and save us from the punishment of the fire."

Then make *salām* by saying:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

Translation:

"Peace be upon you and the mercy of Allah."

Say:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ

while facing the qiblah and then turn your face to the right while saying:

وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

Your gaze should be on your shoulder when you make *salām*. Intend greeting the angels and pious

jinns that are on your right. Then turn your head and bring it back to its normal position facing the Qiblah. Now turn to the left and make salâm while intending to greet the angels and pious jinns on your left. Your salâm is now complete: This method of uttering the salâm is deduced from the ahâdîth¹⁰.

It is preferable to make duâ after salâh. This is done by raising your hands chest height with the palms facing skywards. There should be a slight gap between the palms. Do not join them completely nor spread them very far apart.

If you are performing a three or four raka'ât salâh, stand up after reciting *At-Tahiyât* (...). The first sitting position is referred to as *qa'dah ulla* (نستة) (اول). In this position, *salât (durûd)* and *du'â* are not recited.

If it is a fard salâh, recite only *bismillâh* and *Sûrah Fâtihah* and go into *rukû'*. Then complete the salâh as described above for a two raka'ât salâh.

¹⁰ والكيفية هذه من ابتداءه تلقاء الرحمه وانتهائه في حساب اليمين (مسارف السنن ج ٢ ص ٣٠)
وإن المشرع شرح المذهب لابن زكرياء النورى (ج ٢ ص ٤٤١) يندى السلام سخيل القبلة
وبنها ملتفتا بحيث يكون تمام سلامه مع آخر الالتفاتات وفى المفتوح لا ينـدـى قدامـة (ج ١ ص ٥٩٢) قال
ابن عقيل: يندى بقوله السلام عليكم الى القبلة ثم يلفت قابلا ورحمة الله عن يمن يمينه وبماره لقول
عاشرة كان النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم تلقـاء وجهـه معـاه ابـدا السلام ورحـمة الله يـكونـ في حالـه
الصـادـه

If the salâh is not a fard salâh, then together with Sûrah Fâtihah, recite another sûrah in the third and fourth raka'ât before proceeding to rukû'.

The Obligatory (Fard) Acts of Salâh

The following six acts are fard in salâh. If any of them are missed out, the salâh will be null and void, whether one leaves them out intentionally or unintentionally. The salâh will have to be repeated.

1. *Takbîre Tahrîmah* i.e. to say **اَكْبِرٌ** after making the nîyyah.
2. *Qiyâm* - to stand. One has to stand for the duration of the amount of fard qirâ'ah. Standing is obligatory for the fard and *witr* salâhs only. Standing for the two sunnah raka'ât of Fajr is also obligatory."
3. *Qirâ'ah* - to recite any verse of the Holy Qur'ân. The condition is that the verse must constitute at least two words eg. نَعَمْ . If the verse comprises only one word eg. مَدْعَىْ , or one letter eg. صْ , or two letters eg. حَمْ , then the obligation will not be fulfilled. Qirâ'ah is obligatory in the two raka'ât of fard and all the raka'ât of *witr*, sunnah and nafl.
4. *Rukû'*. *Rukû'* is obligatory in every rakat of salâh.

The minimum rukū' is that one should bend to the extent that the hands reach the knees.

5. The two *sajdahs*. Two sajdahs are fard in every rakat.
6. *Qa'dah Akhîrah* - the final sitting posture for the duration of *Tashah-hud*.

The Compulsory (Wâjib) Acts of Salâh

The following constituents are wâjib in salâh. If any one of them is omitted, the error must be rectified by performing sajdah sahw. Sajdah sahw will be discussed later.

1. To begin the salâh by reciting the words ﴿اَكْبَر﴾ in particular.
2. To recite Sûrah Fâtihah.
3. To recite Sûrah Fâtihah in the first two raka'ât of a fard salâh and in all the raka'ât of witr and nafl salâh.
4. To add at least three verses after Sûrah Fâtihah.
5. To recite Sûrah Fâtihah before another sûrah.
6. *Tarîib* - to fulfil the various constituent parts of salâh (the fard and wâjib acts) in their appropriate sequence as described in the section dealing with the method of performing salâh.
7. *Qa'dah Ula* - to sit after every two raka'ât for the duration of *tashah-hud*.
8. To stand for the third rakat immediately after *tashah-hud* without any delay.
9. To recite Tashah-hud in every qa'dah.

10. To recite Du'â-e-Qunût in the third rakat of witr salâh.
11. *Qaumah* - to stand erect after performing rukû' and before going into sajdah.
12. To make *salâm* in order to exit from salâh.
13. *Ta'dîl* - to fulfil all the actions of salâh with ease without being hasty. If the salâh is performed without observing *ta'dîl*, the salâh, though valid, is rendered improper. Sajdah sahw is not performed for failing to observe *ta'dîl*.
14. To recite the extra takbîrs of Eid Salâh.
15. To recite the takbîr of rukû' in the second rakat of Eid Salâh.

All other acts of the salâh, besides the fard and wâjib constituents, are sunnah or mustahab factors. One should perform all such acts to attain the maximum reward of salâh as all these acts are meritorious. One should not omit them without any reason. However, no sajdah sahw is performed for omitting the sunnah and mustahab constituents.

Sajdah sahw

Sajdah sahw is the performance of two additional sajdahs in order to compensate for the omission of a wâjib or any such defect. These sajdahs are only performed if the defect or error was committed by mistake. If the error was caused intentionally, sajdah sahw cannot be performed but the salâh will have to be repeated.

The method of performing sajdah sahw is that after reciting *tashah-hud* in the final sitting, one must read,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله

and turn the head to the right. After making one salâm, perform two sajdahs and complete the salâh as usual. Then recite *tashah-hud*, *salât (durûd)* and *du'â* and make salâm to complete the salâh.

Factors which Nullify Salâh

1. Speech whether intentional or unintentional nullifies the salâh. Even saying 'ah' or 'oh' will nullify the salâh. Similarly, if by clearing the throat unnecessarily, a sound is emitted, the salâh will become null and void. Replying to the greeting of someone by saying,

وعليكم السلام

will also nullify the salâh.

2. Any action which does not form part of salâh, if carried out during salâh will nullify it eg. to walk, eat or drink.

3. If one's chest is turned away from the qiblah, the salâh is nullified.

4. Laughing aloud during salâh also nullifies the

salâh.

5. If a woman plaits her hair while offering salâh, her salâh becomes null and void.

Factors which are Makrûh in Salâh

The following factors are makrûh in salâh. Although these acts do not nullify the salâh, they diminish the reward of the salâh.

1. To fiddle with one's clothing and hair.
2. To crack one's fingers.
3. To glance to the right or left.
4. To place the hands on the hips.
5. To perform salâh facing another person.
6. To perform salâh on pictures of animate objects or in the proximity of such pictures.
7. To lengthen the second rakat considerably more than the first one.
8. To specify a particular sûrah for a particular salâh.
9. To squat, sit on one's heels or to sit like a dog with the posterior on the ground and the knees raised up.
10. Voluntarily leaving out a sunnah.
11. To perform salâh in such clothing in which one does not go in front of people.
12. To lean on to something.
13. To perform salâh while one has the urge to go to toilet or to pass wind.
14. To perform salâh in someone else's property

without the owner's consent.

15. To perform salâh in a dirty place like a toilet.
16. To perform salâh on a public road or in the graveyard.
17. To perform salâh with a little impurity or in close proximity to impurity.
18. To count the verses of the Qur'ân or the tasbîh on one's fingers.
19. To rub off dust or sand from one's face if the sand or dust does not harm one.
20. To make sajdah only on the forehead when one has the ability to place the nose on the ground.
21. When one has the urge to eat, to perform salâh in the presence of the food.
22. To repeat the same sûrah in both the raka'ât of fard when one knows other sûrahs as well.
23. In the fard salâh, to recite the sûrahs contrary to the sequence of the Qur'ân.
24. To recite a sûrah in the fard salâh, omit the next sûrah and recite the following one eg. to recite *Sûrah Al-Fîl* in one rakat and to recite *Sûrah Al-Mâ'un* in the next one. This mas'alah applies to the short sûrahs only i.e. from Sûrah Bayyinah till the end.
25. To close the eyes unnecessarily.

In Congregation

Imâmat

It should be remembered that it is *makrûh* for a

females-only congregation. However, if women do happen to perform salâh in congregation in which there are exclusively females, the female Imâm will stand among the women of the first saff in the centre of the saff as the following narration indicates:

"روى عن عائشة أبا أم كلثوم قاتل وسطهن"

Translation:

When Âishah رضي الله عنه made Imâmat of a female congregation, she stood among them at the centre.

Sheikh Abdur Razzâq (211 A.H)¹², مسند، quotes the following narration in his *Musannaf*:

"عن حميرة بنت حصين قالت أمتنا أم سلمة في صلاة العصر قامت بيتنا"

Translation:

Hujayrah Bint Husain رضي الله عنه reports that Ummu Salmah رضي الله عنها was their Imâm in Asr salâh and she stood amongst them.

من طريق عبد الرزاق والدارقطني وغوفما أنظر تلخيص المجموع ٢/٢٢ ورسال الترمذى ١٢
الملاحة منه صحيح كذا نسب الرابعة ٢/٣١ وانظر المصنف لعبد الرزاق ج ٢ ص ٢٠٠ من الكتب الإسلامية برمودت.

¹³ Dates after a personality's name refer to his date of birth and death according to the lunar calender. Where only one date is mentioned, it refers to the date of demise.

آخر الدارقطني والشافعى وغوفما كما في التلخيص المجموع ٢/٢٢ رسال الترمذى منه .^{١٤}
صحيح كما في نسب الرابعة ٢/٣١

The Saffs

In a congregation of males and females, the males will occupy the front rows, followed by the children and then the females. Sheikh Abdur Razzâq (211 A.H) رحمه الله، narrated the following hadîth in his *Musannaf*:

سأَلَ رَجُلٌ أَنَّسَ بْنَ مَالِكَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ مَلِكَ كَمْ كَنَّ النِّسَاءُ يَشْهَدُنَّ الصَّلَاةَ مَعَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ اذَا قَلَمَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ : حَوْرَ صَفَوفَ النِّسَاءِ الصَّفَ المُؤْخَرُ وَثُرَ صَفَوفَ النِّسَاءِ الصَّفَ الْمُؤْخَرُ^{١٥}
الْقَدْمُ وَحَوْرَ صَفَوفَ الرِّجَالِ الصَّفَ الْمُؤْخَرُ وَثُرَ صَفَوفَ الرِّجَالِ الصَّفَ الْمُؤْخَرُ

Translation:

A person asked Anas Ibn Mâlik رضي الله عنه whether the women attended the congregation with Rasûlullâh ﷺ. He replied in the affirmative and said that is the reason for which Rasûlullâh ﷺ mentioned, "The best saffs of the women are the last saffs and the worst saffs of the women are the front saffs. The best saffs of the males are the front saffs while the worst saffs of the males are the last saffs."

^{١٥} المسند لمحمد الرزاق ج ٢ ص ١٤٨ وأخرجه الجساعة إلا البخاري عن أبي هريرة قال قال رسول الله صل الله عليه وسلم حور صافوف الرجال أولها وثراها آخرها وحور صافوف النساء آخرها وثراها أولاها. وانظر الاحاديث في هذا المعنون في نسب الرابعة ٣٦/٢

Recitation

When one performs salâh behind the Imâm, one will not recite anything from the Qur'ân. Only the tasbîhs and du'âs will be recited. Allâh ﷺ says in the Holy Qur'ân:

وَإِذَا قُرِئَ الْقُرْآنَ فَلَا تُبَرِّأْهُ وَأَنْصُرْهُ الْمُلْكُمْ تَرْحُونَ^{١٦}

Translation:

"When the Qur'ân is being recited, listen to it attentively and remain silent in order that you obtain mercy."

Imâm Muslim Ibn Hajjâj (261 A.H) رحمه الله، has narrated the following words:

"وَإِذَا قُرِئَ فَانصُوا"^{١٧}

Translation:

Abû Mûsâ Ash'arî رحمه الله reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "When the Imâm recites, remain silent."

This hadîth explicitly indicates that when one is a muqtadî, one has to remain silent.

^{١٦} سورة الأعراف ٢٠١

^{١٧} صحيح سلم ١ ص ١٧٤ ، نسخة لكتاب وحدت ٦٣ ص ٧١٢ دار السلام

Imâm Abû Abdillâh Ibn Mâjah Al-Qazwînî (273 A.H) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadîth:

عن جابر رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم من كان له امام فقراءة الامام له قراءة^{١٨}

Translation:

Jâbir رضي الله عنه reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Whoever has an Imâm, the recitation of the Imâm will suffice for him."

Departing from the Musjid

It is makrûh for females to attend the congregation. However, if the congregation happens to have both males and females, the women must be allowed to depart first. Imâm Sulaimân Ibn Ash'ath Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadîth in his *Sunan*:

عن أم سلمة رضي الله عنها قالت كان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إذا سلم مكث قليلاً و كانوا يرون أن ذلك كيما ينفذ النساء قبل الرجال^{١٩}

سنن ابن ماجه من حديث حابر هنا أخرجه عبد بن حميد وأحمد بن منبه في مستدينهما وقال "الحافظ البورصيري الشانعى في اعتقاد المهرة: أساند حديث حابر الاول على شرط الشبيخين والثانى على شرط مسلم (الإخاف للطبع ما ماش المطالب العالية ٤٥٠/٢)"

١٩ سنن أبي داود من ١٤٩ النسخة الباكستانية وحديث ١٠٢٠ ص ١٣٠٠ دار السلام
وأخرجه البخاري والنسائي وابن ماجه.

Translation:

Umme Salmah ﷺ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ used to wait for a little while after making salâm in order for the women to depart before the men (from the musjid).

عن أسماء بنت أبي بكر رضي الله عنها قالت سمعت رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول
من كان منكم يؤمن بالله واليوم الآخر فلا ترفع رأسها حتى يرفع الرجال رؤوسهم
كرابيصة أن يرى من عورات الرجال^{٢٠}

Translation:

Asmâ Bint Abî Bakr ﷺ reports that she heard Rasûlullâh ﷺ saying, "Whoever from amongst you believe in Allâh and the Last Day, should not raise her head before the men have lifted their heads. This is in order that you do not see the *aurah* (private parts) of the men."

In those days, the men used to wear a sheet as a lower garment. During prostration, there was the possibility of their private parts being exposed from the rear. Therefore, the women were ordered to raise their heads from sajdah after the men.

سنن أبي داود من ١٢٢-١٢٣ حدث أسماء بنت أبي بكر قال المبرزى في تفسير الأشراف بعد
أن ذكر له طريقاً أخرى فيها روى من أسد الرؤوفة قال : والمحفوظ حديث معاذ يعني حدثت أسماء
دارد المذكور تفسير الأشراف ٢٥١/١١ وأما قول الحافظ الثعلبي بأن رسول أسماء بن مهران قد قال
الحافظ في التغريب يعني أن يكون عبد الله بن كعبان وهو ثقة والله أعلم.

Perfume

Imâm Muslim (261 A.H) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadîth in his *Sahîh*:

عن زينب امرأة عبد الله بن مسعود رضي الله عنها قالت قال لنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إذا شهدت إحدىكن المسجد فلا تمس طيباً²¹

Translation:

Zaynab, the wife of Abdullah Ibn Mas'ûd ﷺ said that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "When any of you (women) come to the musjid, do not apply any perfume."

Imâm Muslim (261 A.H) رحمه الله has also narrated the following hadîth:

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنها قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم أيا امرأة أصابت بخوراً فلا تشهد علينا العشاء الآخرة²²

Translation:

Abû Hurairah رضي الله عنه reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Whichever woman applies fragrance should not

²¹ صحيح سلم ومشكورة المصايح ج ١ ص ٣١٢ دار الفكر - بيروت و مص ٩٦ النسخة الالكترونية

²² صحيح سلم ومشكورة المصايح ج ١ ص ٣١٢ دار الفكر - بيروت و مص ٩٦ النسخة الالكترونية

attend the Ishâ salâh with us."

CHAPTER 2

DIFFERENCES IN LAWS BETWEEN MALES AND FEMALES

The Shari'ah has taken the physical differences of males and females into account, thereby differentiating in the postures of salâh. Just as there are differences in salâh, so too are there numerous differences in almost every aspect of worship. Hereunder we enumerate a few examples of the differences in laws between males and females.

Menstruation

Imâm Muhammad Ibn Ismâîl Al-Bukhârî (256 A.H) محدث، has narrated the following hadîth:

عن معاذة أن امرأة قالت لما ناشت رضى الله عنها أبجزى إحدانا صلاتها إذا طهرت فقالت
احرررت انت قد كنا نخپض مع النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم فلا يأمرنا به أو قالت نلا

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تفعله

Translation:

Muâzah reports that a woman asked Âishah whether a woman should make qadâ (amends) of her salâh when she is purified from her menstruation. Âishah replied, "Are you a

Khârijî²⁴? While we were with Rasûlullâh ﷺ, he did not command the menstruating women to make qadâ of their missed salâhs.”

This hadîth indicates that a woman who menstruates does not perform salâh while she is menstruating and when her menstruation is complete, she does not have to make amends for her missed salâhs. This ruling applies only to woman. The menstruating women used to keep away from the Musallâ (Eid Gâh) as mentioned by Imâm Bukhârî²⁵ (رحمه الله):

فَلَا يُحِبُّنَّ فِي شَهْرٍ جَمَاعَةُ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَدُعْوَتُمْ وَيَعْتَذِلُ مَصْلَامُهُمْ

Translation:

Umme Atiyyah ﷺ reports that the menstruating women attended the congregation of the Muslims and their du’â but kept away from their place of salâh.

Permission

If a woman wants to attend the masjid, she has to

²⁴ A deviated sect who lived in Harîrâ near Kufa and who regarded making qadâ compulsory after a woman is purified from her menses.

²⁵ صحيح البخاري من دار السلام رج 1 ص ١٢١ النكارة البوكيه

ask her husband for permission. Males have not been commanded to seek the permission of their spouses before attending the musjid.

Imâm Bukhârî (256 A.H) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadîth²⁶:

عن سالم بن عبد الله عن أبيه عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال اذا استاذت امرأة
احدكم فلا ينفعها

Translation:

Sâlim narrates from his father who reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "When any one of your wives seeks your permission, do not prohibit her."

Azân

It is mentioned in *Musannaf Abdur Razzâq*²⁷:

عن ابن عمر : ليس على النساء أذان

Translation:

²⁶ صحيح البخاري ص ١٢٣ دلر السلام وص ١٢٠ المجموعة الباكتانية

²⁷ رواه اليهichi موقوفا بمنه صحيح ومثله في التلخيص المبهر ج ١ ص ٢١١ وفى للصنف لعبد الرزاق ج ٣ ص ١٢٧ نقله الزيلعى من حديث أسماء مرفوعا من الكامل لابن عدى وضيقه ثم قال وبهذا الحديث انكره ابن الجوزى في التحقيق وناول هذا لا نعلم مرفوعا اثنا هو شئ بردى عن الحسن البصري وابراهيم الحسبي ورده الشيخ في "الإمام" وأدله أعلم

"Abdullâh Ibn Umar رضي الله عنه states that there is no azân upon women."

Ibrâhim Nakhî (96A.H) رحمه الله, a great Tâbi'i and *fâqîh* (jurist) of Iraq who was also the teacher of Imâm Abû Hanîfah رحمه الله, states that azân and iqâmah are not compulsory upon women.

Clothing

As mentioned previously, a woman has to cover her entire body before she can perform salâh. However, the minimum requirement for males is from the navel to the knee.

The Saff

In congregation, a woman has to stand behind the saff of the males and children.

Imâm Bukhârî (256 A.H) رحمه الله, has narrated the following hadîth ²⁸:

عن أنس بن مالك رضي الله عنه قال صلبت أنا ورئيم في يتنا خلف النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم رأسي حلقنا أم سليم

Translation:

"Abu 'Ubaydah says that he and an companion
entered with him in their house behind Rasūlullāh
ﷺ while the mother of Anas, Umm Sulaym
and 'Abdullah were standing behind them."

This hadīth indicates that even if a woman is alone,
she has to stand behind the sefīs of the males and
will not join the males in their sefī.

Prompting

The following hadīth is mentioned in Sahīh
Bukhārī:

عَنْ أُبْوَيْ هُرَيْرَةَ وَضَرِيَّ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَنْهُ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ الصَّفْقَةُ لِلنِّسَاءِ وَالصَّبْحَةُ
للرجال

Translation:

Abū Hurairah reports that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said,
"Clapping (of the palms) is for females and tasbīh
(saying subhānallāh) is for males."

The jurists have interpreted this hadīth to mean that
when an incident occurs in salāh eg. the Imām errs,
then the Muqtadīs (followers) should prompt him
by either saying سبحة الله for males while females

should not raise their voices heard. They can drop the inner side of the right palm on the back of the left palm.

The Voice

It is stated in *Ilâ-us-Sînat*:

ولنرأة مسأله من ذلك (نثیر بالذكر) فلما لا يجوز لها رفع صوتها

Translation:

"It is not permissible for a woman to raise her voice in salâh."

Jumu'ah

Imâm Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadîth:

عن طارق بن شهاب رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم الجمعة حق واحب على كل مسلم في جماعة الا على اربعة عبد علوك ثم امرأة او صبي او مريض

³⁰ نعلمه السنن ج ٢ ص ١٥٩

سن أبى داود من ١٥٢ هنا الحديث قال الروى عن الحلامه عن قول أبى داود طارق رأى الى "صلى الله عليه وسلم ولم يسمع منه قال هنا غير قادر في الصحة ناته يكون مرسل صحيح وهو حسنة والحديث على شرط الصحيحين وقال اليهقى في سن ١٨٣/٢ : هنا الحديث وان كان فيه ارسال فهو مرسل حسد وطارق من كبار التابعين ومن رأى الى "صلى الله عليه وسلم" وان لم يسمع منه ولحدوث شواهد.

Translation:

Târiq Ibn Shihâb ﷺ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Jumu'ah is compulsory on every Muslim with congregation except on four people: a slave, a woman, a child and a sick person."

Imâm Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H) محدث also narrates the following hadîth:

رَدَ رِوَايَةُ أُمِّ مُطْبِعَةٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا وَلَا جَمَعَ مُلْبِنًا وَلَمْ يَأْتِ مِنْ اتِّبَاعِ الْجَنَازَةِ^{١٢}

Translation:

In the narration of Umme Atiyyah ﷺ, it is mentioned that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said that Jumu'ah is not obligatory upon women and he prohibited us from following the janâzah.

Kafn

The kafn of a woman differs considerably from that of a man. The way her hair is plaited is also

رَانَظَ نَعْمَانٌ نَعْمَانٌ الْأَرَابَةَ ١٩٦ / ٢ وَتَلَحِيقُ الْمَبِيرَ ٦٥ / ٢ وَسَعْ فَلَكَ قَدْ أَخْرَجَهُ الْمَالِكِيُّونَ مُوسَرًا وَتَالَ الْخَاطِفَ
صَحَحَهُ غَيْرُ وَاحِدٍ.

مِنْ أَيِّ دَارَدَ حَدِيثَ ١١٣٩ ص ١٣٠٢ دَارُ الْإِسْلَامِ وَص ١٦٢ النَّسْخَةُ الْأَكَادِيمِيَّةُ . سُكِّتَ عَلَيْهِ^{١٢}
الشَّنْرِيُّ وَابْنُ الْقَيْمِ وَتَقَدَّمَ الْخَاطِفُ لِلْفَتْحِ بَابَ اتِّبَاعِ النَّسَاءِ الْجَنَازَةَ وَعَزَاءَ الْمُطْرَأِ وَسُكِّتَ عَلَيْهِ وَكَثُرَكَ
أَوْرَدَهُ إِلَى تَلَحِيقِ الْمَبِيرَ ٦٥ / ٢ وَعَزَاءَ الْمُطْرَأِ إِنْ خَرِيقَةَ فَصَحِيحَهُ وَلَمْ أَحْدُدْ لِلْطَّرْعِ رَأْلَهُ أَعْلَمُ.

different.”³³

Following the Janâzah

Imâm Bukhârî (256 A.H) محدث, narrates the following hadîth:

عن أم عطية أنها قالت لها من اتبع الجنائز ولم يزد عمرها³⁴

Translation:

Umme Atiyyah رضي الله عنها said, "We were prohibited from following the janâzah and this order was not emphasized upon us."

The jurists have concluded from this hadîth that it is *makrûh tanzîhî* for females to follow the janâzah.

Hajj

Hajj is obligatory on both males and females but females have an added condition of travelling with the husband or a mahram. Imâm Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H) محدث, narrates the following hadîth:

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم لا يحل لامرأة مسلمة

³³ انظر صحيح البخاري من ٢٤٨-٢٤٧ دار السلام و من ١٦٨ السنة البكتابية.

³⁴ صحيح البخاري من ٢٥١ دار السلام و ج ١ من ١٧٠ السنة البكتابية

تَسَافِرْ مَسِيرَةَ لَيْلَةٍ إِلَّا وَمَعَهَا رَجُلٌ ذُو حِرْمَةٍ مِنْهَا^{٣٥}

Translation:

Abû Hurairah ﷺ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "It is not permissible for a Muslim woman to travel the distance of a day's journey without a mahram male."

Imâm Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H) محدث, also narrates the following hadîth:

عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: لَا يَحِلُّ لِأُنْثَى
تَرْكُنَ بَاقِهُ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ أَنْ تَسَافِرْ سَفَرًا فَوْقَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ فَصَاعِدًا إِلَّا وَمَعَهَا أُبُوهاً أَوْ أَخْرَجَهَا
أَوْ زَوْجَهَا أَوْ ابْنَهَا أَوْ ذُو حِرْمَةٍ مِنْهَا^{٣٦}

Translation:

Abû Sa'îd ﷺ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "It is not permissible for a woman who believes in Allâh and the last day to travel for three days or more without her father, brother, husband, son or mahram."

^{٣٥} سنن أبي داود ج ٢ ص ١٤٠ للكتابة المصرية بيروت وأخرجه سلم والترمذى كتاب تحفة
الإشراف وعزاه للشترى إلى البخارى في المختصر.

^{٣٦} سنن أبي داود ج ٢ ص ١١٠ للكتابة المصرية بيروت قال الشترى في المختصر: أخرجه سلم
والترمذى وابن ماجه وأخرجه البخارى وسلم من حديث قرعة بن يحيى عن أبي سعيد بحروف.

Ihrâm of a Woman

The *ihrâm* of a male differs considerably from that of a female eg. a male cannot wear sewn clothing while a female can. A woman does not shave her head to come out of *ihrâm*. Males have to shave the head after coming out of *ihrâm*. Imâm Abû Dâwûd رضي الله عنه, narrates the following hadîth:

عن ابن عباس رضي الله عنه أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال ليس على النساء جلخ
بنقا على النساء التقصير^{٣٧}

Translation:

Ibn Abbâs رضي الله عنه reports that Rasûlullâh صلی اللہ علیہ وسّلّم said, "Women do not shave their heads completely; they only trim their hair."

Divorce

Nikâh is consummated by both males and females, but only the male has the right to issue a *talâq* (divorce). Imâm Ibn Mâjah (273 A.H) رضي الله عنه, narrates the following hadîth^{٣٨}:

من ألب داود ج ٢ ص ١٤٠ المكتبة المصرية - بيروت قال المحقق في التحقيق ٢٦١/٢ : رواه " أبو داود والدارقطني والطبراني من حديث ابن عباس وفواه أبو حاتم بن عثيمين البغدادي والبخاري في التاريخ وأعلمه ابن القطان ورد عليه ابن الموارد فأصاب .
من ابن ماجه ج ١ ص ٦٧٢ فار الفخر - بيروت " ٣٨

انما الطلاق من أخذه بالساق

Translation:

"Talāq (issuing a divorce) is only the prerogative of the male."

Polygamy

A male has the prerogative of marrying four women while a female can marry only one male. Allāh ﷺ says in the Holy Qur'ān:

"فَانكحُوا مَا طابَ لِكُمْ مِّنَ النِّسَاءِ مُثْنَى وَرَبْعًا"

Translation:

"Marry women who please you whether two, three or four."

The Ghair Muqallids

The Ghair Muqallids, who claim that there are no differences in the salāh of males and females, themselves differentiate between the sexes. Hereunder follow some examples:

1. In their musjids, the males are appointed as Imāms but no musjid of theirs has a female as an Imām.
2. Males are always muazzins in their musjids and

never a female.

3. The Iqâmah is only called out by males. Females are never given this task.

4. The males always stand in the front saffs. The females are made to stand in the rear.

5. Most of their males perform salâh bare-headed. The females however, do not discard their scarves or burqâs.

6. Most of their males leave their elbows and shins exposed in salâh. However, their females do not perform salâh in this manner.

7. The females cover their whole bodies in salâh; not the males.

8. The males stand with their feet wide apart while the women do not do this.

It will be the height of immodesty to see women standing with their feet wide apart in salâh.

CHAPTER 3

PROOFS FROM THE AHÂDÎTH

Imâm Ahmad Ibnul Husain Al-Bayhaqî (458 A.H) رحمه الله، has mentioned a principle which is the basis of the differences found in the salâh of males and females. He says,

وجامع ما يفارق المرأة في الرجل من أحكام الصلاة راجع إلى الستر وهو أنها مأمورة بكل
ما كان أستر لها والأبراب التي تلي هذه تكشف عن معناه^{٤٠}

Translation:

"The separating factor between the laws of salâh of males and females is that of concealment. A woman is commanded to do all those actions which are more concealing for her. The succeeding chapters will reveal this distinguishing factor."

Clothing

Imâm Bayhaqî (458 A.H) رحمه الله، narrates the following hadîth:

عن عائشة رضي الله عنها عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم أنه قال لا تقبل صلاة حانق إلا

”^{٤١}
بِخَمَارٍ“

Translation:

Âishah ^{رضي الله عنها} reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The salâh of a woman is not accepted unless she wears a veil."

Imâm Abû Bakr Ibn Abî Shaybah (235 A.H) ^{رضي الله عنه} narrates:

عن جماعة ائمأة امرأة لم تغسل شعرها لم تقبل لها صلاة ^{٤٢}

Translation:

Mujâhid (104 A.H) ^{رضي الله عنه}, reports that whichever woman does not cover her hair, her salâh will not be accepted.

It is reported in the *Musannaf* of Ibn Abî Shaybah ^{رضي الله عنه}, (235 A.H):

عن عائشة رضي الله عنها أنها سئلت عن الحناء فقالت إنما الحناء ما رأى البشرة

رالشعر ^{٤٣}

Translation:

Âishah ^{رضي الله عنها} was asked about the khimâr. She replied that the khimâr was a veil that concealed the skin and the hair.

^{٤١} البهقى ج ٢ ص ٢٢٢ قال الماذن بالمراعى: رواه المذنب الا السانى وصححه ابن حزم

^{٤٢} البیف لابن القاسم شیة ج ١ ص ٢٣٠

^{٤٣} المتف لابن القاسم شیة ج ٢ ص ٢٣٥

Imām Abū Dāwūd (275 A.H) رحمه اللہ عزیز، has related a similar hadīth from Ummīt Salmah ام سالم in which a khīmār and a long cloak have been mentioned.⁴

Raising the hands

Hāfiẓ Nūrūd-dīn Maythāmī (807 A.H.) حفظہ اللہ عزیز، states:

عن واللہ بن عاصم رضی اللہ عنہ علی قال رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم لَا ابْرُجْنَ مَا تَحْمِلْتْ لَا جَعْلْ بِلَدْنَكْ مَلَأْنَكْ الْبَلْيَكْ وَالْمَرْأَةُ لَمْ يَلْعَلْ بِهَا حَلَقَةٌ لِتَبْرُجَهَا

"

Translation:

Wā'il ibn Hujr اور نویں اور اسی طبقاً رسول اللہ ﷺ said to him, "O Ibn Hujr, when you perform salāh, raise your hands till your ears while a woman should raise her hands till her chest."

Imām Abū Bakr ibn Abī Shaybah (235 A.H) حفظہ اللہ عزیز، narrates:

عن عبد الله بن زيد رضي الله عنهما أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم

⁴ حسن الابن دار المعرفة، ج 1، ص 111، رقم 1111، مطبوعة دار المعرفة للطباعة والنشر والتوزيع، بيروت.

⁵ محدث في طبع المأذون، طبع المأذون، دار المعرفة، بيروت، دار المعرفة للطبع والنشر والتوزيع.

⁶ مجمع الفتاوى، ج 2، ص 102، دار المعرفة - الدارسة، دار المعرفة للطبع والنشر والتوزيع.

"الصلوة"

Translation:

"Abde Rabbih Ibn Zaytun said that he saw Ummud-Dordā raising her hands parallel to her shoulders when beginning salāh."

رسالة (Imām Abū Bakr Ibn Abī Shaybah (235 A.H)) has also narrated the following tradition:

من حطاء أله سُئلَ مِنَ الْمَرْأَةِ كَمْ تُرْفَعُ يَدَيْهَا فِي الصَّلَاةِ تَلَى حَاجَرَ ثَابِيَّا

Translation:

Atā مَعْلُومٌ (a Tābi'i), was asked how a woman should raise her hands in salāh. He replied that she should raise them till her breast.

Based at the headquarters of Islam, Makkah Mukarramah, Atā مَعْلُومٌ used to issue this fatwā (legal verdict).

رسالة (Imām Abū Bakr Ibn Abī Shaybah (235 A.H)) narrates:

مِنْ حَادِثَاتِهِ كَانَ يَقُولُ لِلنِّسَاءِ إِذَا أَنْتُمْ تَصْلِيَّتُ الصَّلَاةَ تُرْفِعْ يَدَيْهَا إِلَى الصَّدْرِ

¹ شَاهِدَهُ عَلَيْهِ الْمَسْكُونِيُّ وَالْمَسْكُونِيُّ وَالْمَسْكُونِيُّ وَالْمَسْكُونِيُّ

² وَالْمَسْكُونِيُّ

³ وَالْمَسْكُونِيُّ

Translation:

"Hammâd Ibn Salmah Al-Basrî (91-167 A.H) رحمه الله used to say that a woman should raise her hands parallel to her breast when beginning salâh."

Hammâd (167 A.H) رحمه الله, was based in the centre of Islam, Kûfa, where he used to issue the fatwâ according to the above-mentioned hadith.

The narration of Ibn Juraij رحمه الله, has been mentioned as follows:

عن ابن حرير قال قلت لعطاء تشم المرأة بيديها بالتكبير كالرجل قال لا ترفع بذلك
يديها كالرجل وأشار فخض يديه جدا وجمعهما إليه جدا وقال إن للمرأة هبة لبس
للرجل وإن تركت ذلك فلا حرج^{٤٩}

Translation:

(The teacher of Imâm Bukhârî رحمه الله, Abû Bakr Ibn Abî Shaybah [235 A.H] رحمه الله, narrates that) Ibn Juraij رحمه الله, asked Atâ رحمه الله, whether a woman should gesture with her hands like a male when making takbîr. Atâ replied that she should not raise her hands like a male. Then he practically indicated with his hands how it should be done by lowering his hands and drawing them very close to his body. Then he said, "In the raising of the hands, a woman

is unlike a man. And if she leaves that, there is no harm."

The Muslim Ummah continued this practice over the centuries. Imām Zuhri رضي الله عنه, used to issue the same fatwā in Madīnah Munawwarah. In view of these narrations, the Fuqahā 'have issued the following ruling as mentioned in the authentic work of Allāmah Burhānud-Dīn Al Marghīnānī (593 A.H.) رحمه الله, namely *Al-Hidayah*:

وَالرَّأْيُ تُرْفَعُ بِدِينِهَا حَلَاءٌ مِنْ كِبِيرِهَا هُوَ الصَّحِيحُ لَأَنَّهُ أَسْتَرٌ لَهُ^{٥٠}

Translation:

"A woman should raise her hands till her shoulders. This is the correct view because there is more concealment in this posture for her."

During this era of virtue, not a single individual objected to this practice because there were no Ghair Muqallids present at that time.

This is the only time the hands will be raised. Thereafter, before rukū', after rukū' etc. the hands will not be raised. Alqamah has narrated the following hadīth in this regard:

عَلِيٌّ عَنْ عَمَّالِهِ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّدَ

^{٥١} وسلم فصلی قلم يرفع يديه الا في اول مرة

Translation:

'Abdullâh Ibn Mas'ûd رضى الله عنه states, "Should I not perform the salâh of Rasûlullâh ﷺ for you?" Then he performed salâh and did not raise his hands except in the beginning.'

Placing the Hands

The erudite scholar, Allâmah Abdul Hayy Lucknowî (1264-1304 A.H) (رحمه الله) writes:

^{٥٢} واتقروا على أن السنة لمن وضع اليدين على الصدر لأنه أستر لها

Translation:

"As for women, the jurists are unanimous that it is sunnah for them to place their hands on their bosoms."

There is *ijmâ* (consensus of opinion) on this mas'alah. According to the Qur'ân and Hadîth, the one who opposes *ijmâ* is destined to hell. According to the Hadîth, the one who cuts himself off from *ijmâ* is a satan.

It is regrettable that the Ghair Muqallidîn males perform salâh just like the females (with their

hands on their chests etc.). In a certain town, there were no Ghair Muqallids. A Ghair Muqallid happened to perform salâh there. Observing him perform salâh in this new style, two men began commenting. The one said it is very strange that Allâh has made this person a male but he is performing the salâh of women. The second person remarked that he must have learnt how to perform salâh from his wife and is therefore following her instructions.”

Sajdah

Imâm Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H.) س. has narrated the following hadîth in his *Marâsil*:

عَنْ يَعْزِيزِ بْنِ حَمْزَةِ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ مَرَّ عَلَى امْرَأَتَيْنِ
تَحْتَهُمْ فَقَالَ لَهُمَا سَهْدَنَا فَصَلَّا بِعِصْمَتِ النَّسْمِ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ فَإِنَّ النِّسَاءَ لَيْسَ لِذَلِكَ
كَفِيلٌ

Translation:

Yazîd Ibn Abî Habib states that Rasûlullâh ﷺ passed by two women who were performing their salâh. He said to them, “When you prostrate (go into sajdah), then make parts of your body touch the ground because a woman is unlike a man in

”عَنْ يَعْزِيزِ بْنِ حَمْزَةِ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ“

”رَوَى يَعْزِيزُ بْنُ حَمْزَةَ عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِي دِرْبِ الْمَدِينَةِ نَكْرَى شَهْرَ جُمَادَى الْأُولَى هِجَّارَةً“

These aspects*

Ibn Basyir (458 A.H) رضي الله عنه، narrates the following hadith:

عن عبد الله بن عمر رضي الله عنهما قال قيل لرسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يا رب حث
لزرة في الصلاة وصنعت فتحتها على فتحها لأخرى وفاصحت لفتحت عيني
فتحتها كأنه ما يكون فما يرى الله تعالى ينظر إليها ويغور بالمرأة لكنه شبه كأن قد
غمرت خاتمها

Tradition

Abū 'Abdullāh Ibnu 'Umar رضي الله عنهما reports that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "When a woman sits during salāh, she should place her one thigh over the other and when she prostrates (goes into sajdah), she must attach her stomach to her thighs (i.e. her stomach and thighs must touch) so that it is more concealing for her. Indeed Allāh ﷺ looks at her and tells the angels, "O My angels, bear witness that I have forgiven her."

The following narration appears in *As-Sunanul Kubrā*:

عن أبي سعيد الخدري رضي الله عنه صاحب رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم أنه قال للرجل تعرف الأولى وكيف ينظر الرجل إلى
المرأة صلى الله عليه وسلم

رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ح 222 شرفة، مكة، باكستان سر دكتور عبد العزيز
من حيث تصريحه وبيانه وبيانه الثاني.

يتحفرون في محردهم ويغير النساء يتحفزن في محردهن وكذا يغير الرجال لأن يغرسوا
لبسراً وينبغي اليمق في التشبيه ويغير النساء لأن جبريل وذريلاً يا معشر النساء لا ترفعوا
أيديكم ولا ملائكتكم تظفر إلى عورات الرجال

Translation:

Abū Saīd Khudrī رضي الله عنه says that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said,
"The best saff for the men is the front saff while the
best saff for the women is the last saff. He used to
command the men to completely stretch out when
performing sajdah while he ordered the women to
completely contract during the sajdah. He used to
command the men to lay down the left foot and
make the right foot upright during tashab-hud. And
he used to order the women to practise *tarabbu'* (to
sit cross legged) and he said, "O women, do not
raise your glances in salāh in order to look at the
sitr of the males."

Imām Abū Bakr Ibn Abī Shaybah (235 A.H) رحمه الله
quotes the following statement of Ali رضي الله عنه :

"عَنْ عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَاتَلَتْ لَزَرَةَ فَتَحَفَّزَ وَتَغْنِيَ فَتَحَفَّزَ"

مسند المکونی تفسیر ح ٢ ص ٢٢٣-٢٢٤ مذکور مسند مسلم رحمه الله : وقد روى معاذ بن جبل رضي الله عنه
عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم أن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : لا ينفع لمنها ما لها من حيث لا ينفعها
رسد دار على ثقة ح ١ ص ٢٧٠ روى عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم معاذ بن جبل رضي الله عنه
أنه سمع رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم من محدثه عيسى بن عاصي رضي الله عنه أنه سمع من ثقة
رسد دار أن معاذ بن جبل رضي الله عنه سمع من محدثه عيسى بن عاصي رضي الله عنه أنه سمع من ثقة

Translation:

It is reported that Alî رضي الله عنه said, “When a woman performs salâh, she must practise *ihtifâz*⁵⁸ and keep her thighs close together.”

Imâm Abdur Razzâq (211 A.H) رحمه الله, has quoted the following hadîth in his *Musannaf*:

”⁵⁹ وعن علی قال إذا سجدت المرأة فلتختصر ولاتلتصق فخذلها بطنها“

Translation:

Alî رضي الله عنه says, “When a woman prostrates, she must practise *ihtifâz* and keep her thighs close to her stomach.”

The following narration has been quoted by Imâm Bayhaqî (458 A.H) رحمه الله:

”⁶⁰ قال علی رضي الله عنه إذا سجدت المرأة فلتضم فخذلها“

Translation:

“Alî رضي الله عنه said that when a woman performs sajdah, she must keep her thighs close together.”

⁵⁸ *Ihtifâz*: to lean on one side and rest on the posterior. See
لقات الحديث ج ١ ص ٩٨ - کراتشی - پاکستان

⁵⁹ المصنف لمحمد السرزاچ ج ٢ ص ١٣٨

⁶⁰ السن الکمری للیثیقی ج ٢ ص ٢٢٢

The following narration appears in *Kanzul Ummâl*:

عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنهمما قال فإذا سجدت الصقت بطنها بفخديها كاستر ما يكون
٦١

Translation:

"Ibn Umar رضي الله عنهما states that when a woman prostrates, she must let her stomach touch her thighs in order to make herself completely concealed."

Imâm Abû Bakr Ibn Abî Shaybah (235 A.H) narrates the following statement:

عن ابراهيم^{٦٢} قال اذا سجدت المرأة فلتترق بطنها بفخديها ولا ترفع عجزها ولا تجانب كما
٦٣
جانب الرجل

Translation:

"Ibrâhîm رضي الله عنهما says that when a woman prostrates, she should join her thighs to her stomach without raising her posterior and without stretching her limbs out like a male."

The following words have been narrated by

^{٦١} كفر المصال ج ٢ من ١١٧

^{٦٢} رد كتاب الأنوار لامام محمد الشیان مع تعلیل الشیخ ابره الرؤاہ الانسان (ج ١ ص ٦٠٧ - ٦٠٨)

: ناطر اثرال امام النسفي الف روت عنه وكذا عن خصوه مضطربة متضادة فيما بينها بعضها يزيد مذهبها وبعضها ينالها. دار الكتب العلمية.

^{٦٣} المصنف لابن أبي شيبة ج ١ ص ٢٧٠

Ibrâhîm Nakha'i رحمه الله:

عن ابراهيم قال إذا سجدت المرأة فلتضم فخذلها ولنضع بطنهما عليها^٤

Translation:

"Ibrâhîm رحمه الله, said that when a woman prostrates, she must draw her thighs inwards and place her stomach on them."

The following narration has been reported by Imâm Mujâhid (104 A.H) رحمه الله:

عن مجاهد أنه كان يكره أن يضع الرجل بطنه على فخذيه إذا سجد كما تضع المرأة^٥

Translation:

"Mujâhid used to dislike that a man attach his stomach to his thighs in prostration as a woman does."

Hasan Basrî رحمه الله, is quoted as follows:

من هشام عن الحسن قال المرأة تضطجع في السجدة^٦

Translation:

"Hishâm reports from Hasan who says that a

^٤ ابن حماد

^٥ ابن حماد

^٦ ابن حماد

woman should draw herself closely together in sajdah."

Imâm Abdur Razzâq (211 A.H) رحمه الله، narrates as follows:

عَنْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ قَالَ كَاتَبَ عَمَرُ الْمَرْأَةَ أَنْ تَضْعُ فَرَاعِهَا وَيَطْلُبُهَا عَلَى فَخْدِيهَا إِذَا سَجَدَتْ وَلَا
تَسْعَى كَمَا يَسْعَى الرَّجُلُ لَكِنْ لَا تُرْفَعُ عُنْقُهَا[”]

Translation:

"Ibrâhîm (رحمه الله) says, "A woman used to be commanded to place her arm and her stomach on her thigh when she goes into sajdah and not to spread her limbs out as a male does so that her buttocks are not raised."

Allâmah Abul Qâsim Al-Harawi (224 A.H) رحمه الله، narrates:

وَمَنْ سُرَّ بِسُرِّهِ سُرَّ وَمَا صَنَعَ اُنْثِيَّةٌ فَتَحْمِلُ لَهُ تَسَامَ إِذَا حَلَّتْ وَإِذَا

Translation:

"...When a woman performs salât she must contract herself when sitting and prostrating."

Allâmah Muhammad Tâlib Al-Qazîz رحمه الله،

" ۱۷۰ ص ۲

" ۱۷۱ ص ۳ - مُرْفَعَةً لِلْمُسْتَبَقِ

، حَدَّثَ، narrates:

وَحَدِيثُ عَلَىٰ: إِذَا صَلَّتِ الْمَرْأَةُ فَلَا تَحْفَزْ إِذَا جَلَسْتِ وَإِذَا سَجَدْتِ وَلَا تَخْرِي أَيْ تَضَامْ

^{٦٩}
وَتَجْمَعْ

Translation:

"When a lady performs salâh, she must contract herself when she sits down and when she goes into sajdah and she must not spread her limbs out."

Based on these narrations, the Fuqahâ have issued the following ruling:

^{٧٠} وَالْمَرْأَةُ تَنْخَفِضُ فِي سَجْدَتِهَا وَتَلْزِقُ بَطْنَهَا بِفَخْدِيهَا لِأَنَّ ذَلِكَ أَسْتَرٌ لِّلْأَعْيُونِ

Translation:

"A woman should contract herself in sajdah and join her stomach to her thighs because this is more concealing for her."

The Sitting Position

It is mentioned in the Musnad of Imâm Abû Hanîfah (150 A.H) :

عَنْ أَبِنِ عُمَرِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا أَنَّهُ سُئِلَ كَيْفَ كَانَ النِّسَاءُ يَصْلِينَ عَلَى عَهْدِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ

⁶⁹ جمع بخار الأنوار ج ١ ص ٥٢١ - مكتبة دار الإيمان - المدينة المنورة - العربية المعاصرة

⁷⁰ المدارج ج ١ ص ٤٥ دار الكتب العلمية - بيروت وج ١ ص ١١٠ السنة الباكستانية

صلى الله عليه وسلم قال كن يتربعن ثم أمرن أن يختفرن⁷¹

Translation:

"Abdullâh Ibn Umar ﷺ was asked how the women performed their salâh during the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. He replied that initially they performed *tarabbu'*. Then they were ordered to draw themselves close together and lean onto one side by resting on their left buttocks and completely contracting themselves."

Tarabbu' is to sit cross-legged. This narration indicates that initially the women sat in the position of *tarabbu'* but this command was later abrogated and they were then ordered to draw themselves close together and lean onto one side by resting on their left buttocks and completely contracting themselves.

Sheikh Abul Wafâ Afghânî، محدث، writes:

ومن أقرى وأحسن ما روى في هذا الباب ولذا اختج به أئمّتنا وجعله مذهبنا وأخذ به.⁷²

جامع المسانيد ج ١ ص ١٠٠ دار البار - المكمة المكرمة⁷¹

وقال الشيخ ظفر أحمد عثمان: وبه يظهر لكل من له مسكة أن مسانيد الإمام معتبرة معتبرة عكت عليها المفاظ وأنك عليها المدحون شرعاً واحصراً وعملاً وترتباً وزبيادة واحتراضاً واتدلاً - اعلاء السنن ج ٢ ص ٢٦

طبع الشيخ أبو الوفاء الانقلي على كتاب الآثار للإمام محمد الشيابي ج ١ ص ٦٠٨ دار الكتب العلمية.⁷²

Translation:

"This is the most authentic narration of this chapter i.e. the sitting position of women. It is for this reason that Imâm Abû Hanîfah (رحمه الله) has made it the basis of his math-hab."

Imâm Abû Bakr Ibn Abî Shaybah^{۷۴} (235 A.H) رحمه الله narrates the following statement:

عن ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما أنه سئل عن صلاة المرأة فقال تجتمع وتحتاز^{۷۴}

Translation:

When Ibn Abbâs رضي الله عنهما was asked about the salâh of a woman, he replied, "She must draw herself close together and lean onto one side by resting on her

^{۷۴} In another narration of Musannaf Ibn Abî Shaybah, one finds the following words:

عن ابراهيم قال تقدّم المرأة في الصلاة كما يقدّم الرجل
(المصنف لابن أبي شيبة ج ۱ ص ۲۷ ، ادارة القرآن ، كراتشي باكستان)

Translation: Ibrâhîm (Nakha'î) said, "A woman should sit in salâh as a man does." This quotation indicates permissibility. However, Nâsirud-Dîn Albâni has interpolated the words of this narration thus:

تميل المرأة في الصلاة كما يفعل الرجل (صفة صلاة التي صلى الله عليه وسلم ص ۲۰۷)

Translation:

"A women should do as a man does in salâh."

This interpolation has clearly changed the meaning of the words and is a misleading act on the part of a so-called scholar of hadîth.

المصنف لابن أبي شيبة ج ۱ ص ۲۷ - ادارة القرآن - كراتشي باكستان. وتد مراجعته
عام . بند

left buttock.”

The following narration has also been quoted by Imâm Abû Bakr Ibn Abî Shaybah (235 A.H) :

عن خالد بن اللحاج قال كن النساء يزمنن أن يتربعن إذا جلسن في الصلاة ولا يجلسن حلوس الرجال على أوراکهن بتقى ذلك على المرأة عناية أن يكون منها شيء[”]

Translation:

Khâlid Ibn Lajlâj said that the women were commanded with *tarabbu'* when they sat in salâh and that they should not sit like men on their buttocks. This is in order that nothing happens (eg. the revealing of any part of the anatomy).

The Fuqahâ took these narrations into consideration and delivered the following ruling:

إن كانت امرأة جلست على اليمين أيسرها وأخرجت رجليها من الجانب الأيمن لأنه
است لها

Translation:

“A woman should sit on her left buttock and position her legs out on her right hand side because this is more concealing for her.”

The above narrations indicate that Ibrâhîm Nakhaî

[”] المصنف لابن أبي شيبة ج ١ ص ٢٧٠

[”] المصنف ج ١ ص ٢٠٠ دار الكتب العلمية - بيروت وج ١ ص ١١٠ السمعانية

(96 A.H) رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, used to issue the fatwâ in Kufâ in accordance with this practice while in Madînah Munawwarah, Mujâhid (104 A.H) رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, did likewise as did Hasan Bastî رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, in Basrah.

During the era of the Sahâbah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ, Tâbiîn and Tabâtâbiîn رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ, no one went against this practice while there is consensus of opinion among the Fuqahâ as well.

Amongst the Ghair Muqallidîn, Amîr Yamâni has written in *Subulas Salâm* that a woman should contract herself in sajdah while Moulânâ Abdul Jabbâr Ghaznawî and Molwî Ali Muhammad Sâ'îdî (of the Ahle Hadîth sect) have done the same in *Fatâwâ Ghaznawiyyah* and *Fatâwâ Ulamâ-e-Hadîth* respectively. In fact, Molwî Abdul Haqq Hâshimî has written an entire booklet on this difference entitled,

نصب المندى في تحقيق مسألة تحرق المرأة في الركوع والسجود والقعود.

These ahâdîth and âthâr clearly indicate that the salâh of females differs from that of males.

CHAPTER 4

THE JURISTS

Hereunder, we quote the statements of the different Imâms of fiqh concerning the salâh of women.

The Hanâfi Math-hab

Allâmah Muhammad Amin Ibn Abidin As-Shâmi (1252 A.H) رحمه الله، the celebrated Hanâfi jurist states that a woman differs from a man in several mas'alahs. He states:

ترفع يديها حذاء متكيّها ولا تخرج يديها من كعبتها وتضع الكف على الكف تحت ثديها وتسقى في المكوع قليلاً ولا تغدو ولا تخرج فيه أصابعها بل تضيقها وتضع يديها على ركبتيها ولا تخنق ركبتيها وتضيق في ركبوعها وسحودها وتفترش ذراعيها وتترك في التشهد وتضع فيه يديها تبلغ رؤوس أصابعها ركبتيها وتضم فيه أصابعها وإذا ناما شيء في صلاتها تصفق ولا تسحق ولا تزوم الرجل وتكره جماعتهن ويقف الإمام وسطهن ويكره حضورها الحماعة وتذكر مع الرجال ولا جمعة عليهما لكن تعتقد هما ولا عبد ولا تذكر تشريف ولا يستحب أن تسرف بالفخر ولا تجهر في الجهرية ... أقول وقوله ولا تخنق ركبتيها صرائب وتحي بدون لا ... وقوله تبلغ رؤوس أصابعها ركبتيها مبين على القول بأن الرجل يضع يديه في التشهد على ركبتيه والصحيح المما سواه .

Translation:

"A woman should raise her hands till her shoulders. She should not take her hands out of her sleeves. She must place her one palm over the other on her breast. She must bend only slightly in rukū'. She will not spread her fingers out in rukū' but rather keep them close together and place her palms on her knees without clasping them. She must bend her knees slightly. She must contract herself in rukū' and sajdah. She must place her arms flat on the ground. She must sit with her legs out and resting on her posterior in tashahhud. In tashahhud, she must keep her fingers close together. If any mistake occurs in salāh, she must clap her hands without uttering anything. She cannot make Imāmat of a male. It is makrūh to have a female-only congregation. The female Imām will stand in their midst. It is makrūh for her to attend the congregation. In a mixed congregation, the females will stand at the rear. Jumu'ah is not obligatory on her but if she attends it, she will be absolved of responsibility. Neither is Eid compulsory on her nor the *takbīr* of *tashrīq*. It is not *mustahab* for her to perform Fajr when it brightens up (إسنا). In the loud salāhs, she will not raise her voice."

Allāmah As-Shāmī (1252 A.H) رحمه الله, says in another place:

أما المرأة فتشحن في الركوع بسرا ولا تفرج ولكن تضم وتنضع يديها على ركبتيها وضعاً
وتحنّى ركبتيها ولا تخان عضديها لأن ذلك أستر لها^{٦٩}

Translation:

"A woman should bend slightly in rukû' without spreading her fingers out completely. However, she must contract herself and place her palms on her knees and bend them slightly. She must not spread out her arms as this is more concealing for her."

The celebrated scholar, Mullâ Ali Qârî (1014 A.H.)
says:

والمرأة ترفع يديها حلاوة من كبيتها^{٧٠}

Translation:

"A woman will raise her hands till her shoulders
(when performing *takbîr-e-tahrîmah*)."

Allâmah Badrud-Dîn Ainî (855 A.H.) states:

وعن أم الدرداء وعطاء والزهري وحماد وغيرهم أن المرأة ترفع يديها إلى ثديها^{٧١}

^{٦٩} ابن مالك ١٩٤

^{٧٠} حج باب العافية بشرح المذاهب ج ١ ص ٢٢٩ وانظر من ٢٢٣ و ٢٦٢ و ٢٦٥ و ٢٦٥ و الفتاوى المالكية ج ١ ص ٧٢ مكتبة رشيدية باكستان

^{٧١} المذاهب بشرح المذاهب ج ٢ ص ١٨٧ - مكتبة حقانيه - ملستان - باكستان

Translation:

"According to Ummud-Dardâ, Atâ, Zuhrî and Hammâd, the ustâz of Imâm Abû Hanîfah حمّاد، a woman should raise her hands till her breasts."

Muhammad Ibn Muqâtil حمّاد، narrates the same verdict from the Hanafî jurists.⁸¹ Allâmah Burhânud-Dîn Marghînânî حمّاد، (511 A.H.), the author of *Al-Hidâyah*, states that this is the correct and accepted version.⁸²

It is stated in *Fatâwâ Alamghîrî*:

والمرأة تتحنى في الركوع بسرا ولا تنتقد ولا تخرج أصابعها ولكن تضم يديها وترفع
على ركبتيها وضعاً وتحنى ركبتيها ولا يجافي عضديها⁸³

Translation:

"As for a female, she must bend slightly in rukû' without spreading the fingers out. She must keep them together on her knees by merely placing the palms. She must bend her knees slightly and not spread her arms out."

⁸¹ ایضاً

⁸² المداینة ج ١ ص ٥٠ - دار الكتب العلمية - سلسلة

⁸³ الفتاوى السالكية ج ١ ص ٧٥ مكتبة رشيدية باكستان

والمراة لا تجافي في ركوعها وسجودها وتقعد على رجليها وفي السجدة تفترش بطنهما على
فحيثها^{١٤}

Translation:

"A female should not spread out in rukû' and sajdah while she will sit on her legs. In sajdah, she will make her stomach rest on her thighs."

The sitting posture is described in *Fatâwâ Alâmaghîrî* as follows:

"وإن كانت إمرأة جلست على ييتها اليسرى وأخرجت رجليها من الجانب الأيمن"^{١٥}

Translation:

"A woman will sit on her left buttock and position her legs out to the right side."

Imâm Abû Jafar At-Tahâwî (239-321 A.H.)^{١٦}, states:

"واما حلوس المرأة فان أصحابنا قالوا تقعد كاسرة ما يكون لها"^{١٧}

Translation:

"As for a woman, our scholars (Hanafi) state that

^{١٤} الفتاوى المالكية ج ١ ص ٧٥ مكتبة رشيدية باكستان

^{١٥} الفتاوى المالكية ج ١ ص ٧٥ مكتبة رشيدية باكستان

^{١٦} عصر اختلاف العلماء ج ١ ص ٢١٢.

she must sit in a manner that is most concealing."

Sheikh Muhammad Zakariyyā Kāndhelwī (1315-1402 A.H.), writes:

"^{٢٧} رأى المرأة فالمسبب لها التررك معدنا مطلقا"

Translation:

"It is unconditionally • preferable according to us (Hanafi jurists) for a woman to sit on her buttocks with her legs positioned out to the right hand side."

Allāmah Abdul Hayy Lucknowī (1304 A.H.), states:

"...المرأة تختلف الرجل في أفعال الصلاة وما يتعلن بها من كثرة من الأحكام"

Translation:

"A woman differs from a man in many of the actions of salâh..." He then goes on to list the differences as mentioned above by the other jurists.

The Mâlikî Math-hab

The following is stated in *Sharhus Saghir*:

"رأى المرأة فتكون متضدة في جميع أحراماها"^{٢٨}

^{٢٧} اوجز المسالك ج ١ ص ٢٥٨

^{٢٨} المسماة ج ٢ ص ٢٠٥

Translation:

"As for a woman, she will remain contracted in all postures."

A male should separate his stomach from his thighs in sajdah and his arms from his legs. As for a woman, she will completely contract herself (so that all the limbs are close together).

Abū Zayd Qayrawānī رحمه الله, has stated explicitly in *Ar-Risālah* that a woman should contract herself during sajdah.

The Shāfi'i Mazhab

Imām Abū Zakariyyā An-Nawawī (676 A.H.) رحمه الله, states:

"وتنضم المرأة ببعضها إلى بعض"

Translation:

"A woman will join all her limbs together."

Hāfiẓ Ibn Abdul Barr (463 A.H.) رحمه الله, states:

^{٩٠} الشرح الصغير للدردير الماليكي ج ١ ص ٢٢٩

^{٩١} المجموع شرح المنهج ج ٢ ص ٣٩٠

وقال الشافعى : مجلس المرأة باستر ما يكون لها^{٩١}

Translation:

Imām Shāfi‘ī (204 A.H.) حـ، said, “A woman should sit in the most concealing position.”

Imām Shāfi‘ī (204 A.H.) حـ, states that it is better for a woman to completely contract herself when performing sajdah because this is more concealing for her. She must attach great importance to concealment throughout her salāh.

Hāfiẓ Ibn Hajar Al-Asqalānī (852 A.H.) حـ, has written in *Talkhīsul Habīr*:

^{٩٢} والمرأة لا تجافي

Translation:

“A woman should not spread her limbs out (during sajdah).”

From amongst the Muḥaddithīn, Ibnu Daqīq Al-Id̄حـ, has written a similar statement in *Sharh ‘Umdatul Ahkām*.

^{٩١} الاستدخار ح ١ ص ٢٦٧ .

^{٩٢} تلخيص المحدث تخرج أحاديث الرائع الكمال ح ١ ص ٢٤٤ .

The Hambalī Math-hab

Abdullāh Ibn Qudāmah Al-Maqdisī (620 A.H.) حافظ، states that it is preferable for a woman to conceal herself completely. It is for this reason that she should not stretch out and separate all her limbs. He says:

"وَتَسْدِلُ رِسْبَيْهَا فَتَحْكِيمَهَا إِنْ حَانَ بِعْدَهَا ... قَالَ أَمْرَأٌ وَالسَّدِيلُ أَعْجَبَ إِلَيْهِ"

Translation:

A woman should practise *sadl* i.e. draw her legs out to her right side... Imām Ahmad states that he preferred *sadl*.

Allāmah Ibn Qudāmah (620 A.H.) حافظ، states:

"لَا يَمْرُرُ مَنْ هُوَ مُسْتَنِدٌ إِلَى الْمُسْتَنِدِ وَلِلْمُكَلِّفِ لَا يَسْتَنِدُ مَنْ هُوَ مُكَلِّفٌ"

Translation:

"Concealment is preferred for a woman. It is for this reason that extending the limbs out is ~~not~~ mustahab for a female."

The ahādīth and statements of the Imāms and scholars

that a woman should contract herself completely during salâh and try to conceal herself as much as possible. This method of performing salâh has been in vogue since the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ till today. It is practically *mutawâtil* and unanimously accepted.

There is no statement of any Sahâbî, Tâbi'i or jurist that declares the salâh of males and females as the same. In fact, the scholars of the Ahle Hadith sect issue fatwâs according to the above-mentioned ahâdîth. Moulânâ Abdul Jabbâr Ghaznawî of the Ahle Hadîth sect states regarding the above-mentioned ahâdîth of *Bayhaqî* that the Ahlus Sunnah and the four Mazhabas amongst others practise this unanimously. He says that anyone who rejects this method of salâh for women is ignorant.”

The Protagonists of Equality

As for those who claim that there is no difference in the salâh of males and females, they have absolutely no evidence - neither from the Qur'ân nor the Ahâdîth.

However, if they use the practice of Ummud Dardâ ~~as~~, their proof is unsubstantiated for several

^{**} See *Fatâwâ Ghaznawîyyah* p. 27,28 and *Fatâwâ Ulama Hadith* vol.3 p. 148/9.

reasons. Ibn Abī Shaybah (235 A.H.) حَدَّثَنَا, narrates^{*}:

عَنْ مَكْحُولٍ أَنَّ أُمَّ الدِّرَدَاءِ كَانَتْ تَحْلِسُ فِي الصَّلَاةِ كَجُلَّةِ الرَّجُلِ

Translation:

"Makhûl reports that Ummud Dardâ used to sit like the males in salâh."

It is incorrect to use this athar for the following reasons:

1. Hâfiẓ Jamâlud-dîn Yûsuf Al-Mizzi (654-742) حَدَّثَنَا has mentioned her among the Tâbi'în.[”] The practice of a lone Tâbi'î is incorrect to adopt even though it may not be contrary to the principles. Hâfiẓ Ibn Hajar Al-Asqalânî (852 A.H.) حَدَّثَنَا, states in *Fathul Bârî*:

* Imam Bukhârî has also quoted this statement (صحیح البخاری) ج ۱ ص ۱۶۴ دار السلام و ج ۱ ص ۱۱۲ النسخة البابكية. However, he has not mentioned any chain of narrators for it. It is for this reason that I have quoted the work of Ibn Abî Shaybah.

لأن أبي شيبة ج ۱ ص ۲۷۰

وقال ثور بن زيد عن مكحول كانت أم الدرداء تجلس في الصلاة مثلثة الرجل (لذيب) الكمال في أسماء الرجال ج ۲۲ ص ۱۶۵) ول صفحه ۱۶۲ : أم الدرداء المفسر الفقيه .

وَعَلَى التَّابِعِيِّ بِعْرَدَهُ وَلَا هُمْ يَخْالِفُونَ لَا يَسْتَحِجُونَ^{**}

Translation:

“The practice of a lone Tâbi’î, even though it may not contradict any principle, will not be used as a proof.”

Hâfiż Ibn Hajar Al-Asqalânî (852 A.H.) has only counted her among the Tâbi’în. He says:

وَعُرِفَ مِنْ رِوَايَةِ مَكْحُولٍ أَنَّ الْمَرْأَةَ بِأَمْرِ الْمُرْدَادِ الصَّغِيرِ التَّابِعِيَّةُ لَا الْكَبِيرِ الصَّحَافِيَّةُ لَا^{***}
أَخْرَكَ الصَّغِيرَ وَلَمْ يَلْرُكْ الْكَبِيرَ^{***}

Translation:

“It can be realized from the narration of Makhûl [—], that the narration refers to the younger Ummud-Dardâ, the Tâbi’îyyah, not the elder Sahâbiyyah because Makhûl met the former and not the latter.”

(2) Even if it is accepted that she was a Sahâbiyyah, then the narration becomes *munqati'* and will not be acceptable according to the principles of the muhaddithîn. It will also be regarded as her opinion. She did not encourage

^{**} نَحْ يَارِي ح ٢ ص ٢٤٣ درِ احْمَادِ الْمُرْدَادِ الْمَرْوَى - حَوْزَتْ

anyone else to follow her practice. Neither did she present any action or statement of Rasūlullāh ﷺ nor the *fatwā* of any Khalifah.

Accordingly, with regard to the salāh of women, the position of this opinion in the face of the practically adopted method of the ummah (*tawâtur*), is like the position of *shâz qirâ'ah* as opposed to *mutawâtil qirâ'ah*. It is very clear that no Muslim leaves the *mutawâtil qirâ'ah* for the *shâz qirâ'ah*.

(3) Furthermore, if one examines the words of this narration carefully, one will find that it supports the view of the *jumhûr* (majority). The sitting posture of Umme Dardâ ؓ has been compared to the posture of males in this narration which infers that the posture of the other Sahâbiyyât was different as mentioned previously.

(4) Imâm Abû Jafar At-Tahâwî (239-321) رحمه الله, has narrated the following hadîth:

^{١٠٠} عن ابراهيم بن أبي عبلة قال رأيت أم الدرداء تصلى متربة

نحو الأحاديث بترتيب شرح مشكل الآثار لأبي حمزة الثعلبى ج ٢ ص ٢٢٨ . قال: حدثنا ^{١٠٠}
بعد قال حدثنا إسحاق بن عبد الرحمن التميمي قال حدثنا هان بن عبد الرحمن قال حدثني إبراهيم بن
عبلة قال رأيت أم الدرداء تصلى متربة . وهان بن عبد الرحمن بن أبي عبلة ذكره ابن حبان في
ال拾يقات ج ٥ ص ٥٧٤ .

وقد ذكر المخازن أبو الحجاج للمرزى مثنا الآثر في تفسير الكمال (ج ٢ ص ٤٦٨) ترجمة أم

Translation:

“Ibrâhîm Ibn Abî Abalah reports that he saw Ummud Dardâ performing salâh cross-legged.”

This narration contradicts the one mentioned by Ibn Abî Shaybah رحمه الله . It will accordingly not remain worthy of substantiating any Shar’î law.

الدرداء الصغرى المتقدمة ذكرها أئم من هذا القال : وقال رديع بن عطية القدسى عن ابراهيم بن ابي عبد الله عن ام الدرداء ان رجلا اتاهما فقال ان رحلا تد نال منك عند الملك فقالت ان نربن ما ليس فيها فطالما زكرناها ليس فيها قال (التسائل ابراهيم بن ابي عبد الله) ورأت ام الدرداء تصلى مرتين، فتعجب المخاطب، والله اعلم. وذكر المخاطب في اللسان ترجمة هان بن عبد الرحمن أن انس بن قابع قد ثقته روى ما اغرب ولم احده له ترجمته في المطبوع (٥٧٤/٥).

CHAPTER 5

WOMEN IN THE MUSJID

Question

It is mentioned in the hadîth^{١٥١} that Rasûlullâh ﷺ used to exhort the women to attend the Eid Salâh with the men. Rasûlullâh ﷺ also prohibited males from preventing the women from attending the musjid for salâh. However, the jurists have considered it makrûh for women to attend the congregation, Jumu'ah and Eid which is a direct confrontation to the orders of Rasûlullâh ﷺ.

Response

Just as the Ahle Qur'ân sect propagate the idea that the ahâdîth contradict the Qur'ân, eg. they claim that the Qur'ân says that it is better to fast while Rasûlullâh ﷺ said that there is no virtue in fasting during a journey. They claim that Rasûlullâh ﷺ has openly opposed Allâh ﷺ by contradicting what the Qur'ân says.

We respond by saying that there is no opposition or confrontation between Allâh ﷺ and His Messenger

^{١٥١}

صحیح البخاری ج ۱ ص ۲۲، النسخة الپاکستانیہ و ص ۷۶ دار السلام

This is merely their distorted understanding. This is exactly the case with the Ghair Muqallidîn. In order to indicate an opposition between the ahâdîth and fiqh, they deceive others.

Just as we place our trust in Rasûlullâh ﷺ to understand the Qur'ân, similarly, do we place our trust in the learned jurists in understanding the Qur'ân and Ahâdîth. Allâh says,

^{١٠٢} لِيَقْتَهُوا فِي الدِّينِ

Translation:

"... in order that they gain an understanding in Dîn."

Rasûlullâh ﷺ said,

^{١٠٣} رَبُّ حَامِلِ فَقْهٍ غَيْرِ فَقِيهٍ

Translation:

"Many people who uphold the knowledge of fiqh are not jurists."

The Muhaddithîn are of the opinion that the

^{١٠٢} القرآن ١٢٢-١

^{١٠٣} مشكّرة المصايخ ص ٣٥ النسخة الياكوتية رواه النافع والبيهقي من حديث ابن مسعود كما قال صاحب المشكّرة. وقد روی هنا الجزء عن جماعة من الصحابة. انظر البرغيب للحضرمي باب البرغيب في سماع الحديث ربليفة ونسخه أربع

Fuqahâ have a greater understanding of the meanings of the ahâdîth. Imâm Tirmizî حماده الله تيرميذ, states in his *Jâmi'*:

و كذلك قال الفقهاء رهم أعلم بمعانى الحديث¹⁰⁴

Translation:

"This is what the jurists said and they are more knowledgeable with regards to the meanings of the ahâdîth."

Women have been commanded to remain within the precincts of the home. They should not wander out. Allah ﷺ emphatically states in the Holy Qurâن:

وَرِزْقَهُ مُرْزِكٌ

Translation:

"And remain (firmly) in your houses." ¹⁰⁵

Abdullâh Ibn Mas'ûd ؓ narrates the following hadîth from Nabi ﷺ :

عن عبد الله بن مسعود رضي الله عنه قال قال نال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم المرأة عوره فإذا

¹⁰⁶ سرحت استتر فيها الشيطان

¹⁰⁴ حامى الترمذى حدثت ١١٠ من ١٧٦٦ دار السلام وج ١ ص ١١٨ النسخة الباكتانية

¹⁰⁵ القرآن ٢٢ - ٢٣

¹⁰⁶ رواه الترمذى - منكرة من ٢٦٩ نال الترمذى حدثاً محمد بن شمار اخر جعفر و ابن حاصم اخبرنا همام عن قادة عن مورى عن أبي الاحوص عن عبد الله من النبي صلى الله عليه

Translation:

"It is necessary for women to remain in *hijâb* (concealed) because when a woman emerges from the house, Shaytân raises his glance at her." (to involve her in vice or to involve someone else in vice through her).

Jâbir رضي الله عنه reports the following hadîth from Rasûlullâh ﷺ:

عن حابر رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إن المرأة تقبل في صورة شيطان

¹⁰⁷

وتذهب في صورة شيطان ...

Translation:

"A women proceeds in the form of Shaytân and returns in the form of Shaytân." (i.e. she symbolizes Shaytân in involving people in vice and evil).

The aforementioned Qurânic verse and the Ahâdith indicate that it is not permissible for a woman to leave the house. Accordingly, the Fuqahâ (Jurists) have only given a woman permission to leave the house at the time of extreme necessity and then too, in a condition of *hijâb* (concealment) and safeguarding herself from *fitnah* (misconduct).

In the issue under review, neither have the jurists stated that women did not attend the musjid during the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ nor did anyone reject his command. There is no denying the fact that during

وسلم فذكره وقال حدث حسن صحيح غريب كمان نسب الرابعة ٢٦٨/١

رواه سلم - منكرة: ص ٢٦٨ السنة الباكتانية دج ٢ ص ٩٣٢ للكتابة الاسلامية ^{١٠٧}

the time of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, women were allowed to visit the musjid for salâh. However, this permission was accompanied by a number of strict conditions which are all non-existent in our times. Furthermore, although there was this initial permission, Rasûlullâh ﷺ discouraged women from availing themselves of this permission as will be proved forthwith. Sheikh Abdul Haqq Muhaddith Dehlwî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, states that one of the benefits of the women attending the congregation at that time was that there was a great need for the women to learn and be religiously educated. There was an urgent need for them to observe and learn the manner in which Rasûlullâh ﷺ performed his salâh.^{۱۰۴} Rasûlullâh ﷺ told the husbands not to prevent their wives from attending the congregation in order that they may take advantage of the permissibility at that time of attending the musjid. He did not want the rights of the women to be violated. However, his exhortation that women perform salâh at home paved the way for the prohibition which came into effect later by the authority of the Sahâbah رضي الله عنهم and the Fuqahâ رحمۃ اللہ علیہم. It should also be remembered that because the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ was free of misconduct, the prevention of the husbands could only be due to pride and arrogance. It was for this reason that

Rasûlullâh ﷺ prevented the husbands from prohibiting their wives from going to the musjid.¹⁰⁹

Conditions for the Initial Permission

1) Intermingling of the sexes and walking on the middle of the road were totally prohibited even outside the musjid.

Imâm Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H.) narrates:

عن حمزة بن أبي أسد الانصاري عن أبيه أنه سمع رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول وهو خارج من المسجد فاختلط الرجال مع النساء في الطرق فقال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم للنساء استأذنن فانه ليس لكن ان تحققن الطريق عليكن بعفافات الطريق .

قال فكانت المرأة تلتصق بالجدر حتى ان ثوبها ليتعلق بالجدر من لصوتها به¹¹⁰

Translation:

Hamzah reports from his father Abû Usaid Ansârî that once the men and women had mixed outside the musjid on the road. Nâbî ﷺ said to the women, "Move back, verily it is not permissible for you to walk on the middle of the road. It is obligatory

¹⁰⁹ حجۃ الله بالغة کان کنایہ للفتن ج ۰ ص ۱۸

من أبي داود ج ۰ ص ۴۰۷ موسیة الريان و من ۱۶۰۸ دار السلام وج ۲ ص ۷۱۴ النسخة
البكتابية. قال ابن الأثير في النهاية: ليس للنساء أن يتحققن الطريق هو أن يرکبن حُثُّها و هر وسطها ج ۱
ص ۱۱۵ و في رواية أبي داود من لم يوشّه إلا ابن حبان .

upon you to walk on the sides of the road."

The Sahâbî رضي الله عنه narrating this hadîth says:
"As a result, a lady would walk so close to the walls, that her clothing would touch the walls."

This was the extreme obedience that the Sahâbah رضي الله عنهم portrayed before Rasûlullâh صلى الله عليه وسلم. They immediately obeyed his command without expressing any hesitation.

Hâfiż Nûrud-Dîn Al-Haythamî (807 A.H.) states:

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ليس للنساء وسط الطريق^{١١٢}

Translation:

Abû Hurairah رضي الله عنه says that Rasûlullâh صلى الله عليه وسلم said,
"Women should not walk on the middle of the road."

Sheikh Ibn Abdil Barr (463 A.H.) narrates:

عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنهما قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ليس للنساء نصيب في الخروج وليس من نصيب في الطريق^{١١٣}

^{١١٢} موارد الظناد إلى زوايد ابن جبائـن ص ٨٦

^{١١٣} التمهيد لابن الموصي للعام والمسايد للحافظ ابن عبد البر ج ١٠ ص ٢٤٢.

Translation:

Ibn Umar ♦ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Women should not emerge nor should they walk on the roads. They must walk on the sides."

2) Attractive garments were forbidden. Women who came to the masjid were not permitted to don fine and attractive clothing. Imâm Abû Dâwûd (275 A.H.) رحمه الله quotes the following narration in his *Sunan*:

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال لا تغتروا إماء الله
مساجد الله ولكن ليخرجن ومن تغلات^{١١٢}

Translation:

Abû Hurairah ♦ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Do not prevent your women from the masjid but they should emerge while they are dressed unattractively."

The muhaddith, Abdur Razzâq (211 A.H.) رحمه الله states:

^{١١٢} من أئمدة حديث ٥٩٥ من ١٢٦٥ دل المسلم ومن ٨٦ النسخة الباكتانية . قال^{١١٣} لما نظر في الفتح (باب انتظار الناس قيام الامام الخامنئي) : هو عن أبي داود وابن حمزة من حديث
أبي هريرة وعنه ابن حبان من حديث زيد بن عمال وآلة لا تغتروا إماء الله مساجد الله وسلم من
حديث زيد بن عمال إذا شهدت اهلاكن المسجد فلا تمس طياءه وذكر المتن
حديث زيد بن عمال في المجمع (ج ٢ ص ٣٢) وعزمه إلى أحمد والبزار والطبراني في الكبير وقال
استاده حسن.

عن مجاهد عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنهما قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم انذروا النساء بالليل إلى المسجد قال ابته والله لا ناذن لهن فيتخذن ذلك دغلا قال فعل الله بذلك تسمعن أقول قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم وتقول أنت لا قال ليث في حديثه
ليخرجن تقلات عليهن خلقان شعاث بغير دهن^{١١٢}

Translation:

Ibn Umar رضي الله عنهما reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Permit the women to attend the masjid at night." His son said, "By Allâh, we will not permit them otherwise they will make it an excuse." He replied, "Woe to you, you hear me narrating to you from Rasûlullâh ﷺ and yet you say no." Laith says that the women used to emerge with old clothes and dishevelled hair without oiling the hair.

Imâm Ibn Mâjah (273 A.H.) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadith in his *Sunan*:

عن عائشة رضي الله عنها قالت بينما رأى رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم جالس في المسجد فإذا دخلت امرأة من زينة يترقب ل زينة لها في المسجد فقال النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم يا أمها الناس لفرا نسائمكم عن لبس الزينة والتبحرن في المسجد فران بن إسرائيل لم يلعنوا حتى
لسانهم زينة وتبخرن في المسجد^{١١٣}

^{١١٢} المصنف لمحمد بن إبراهيم ح ٢ ص ٢٧٧ وأخرجه الحارثي المحرر، الأول في صحيح (باب حرج)^{١١٤}

الحادي المساجد بالليل والنهار) انظر حصحح البخاري ١٦٧/٢

^{١١٣} س أنس مات في حدبه ١٠٠١ من ٢٧١٧ هـ السلام وص ٢٩٢ لمسحة الakanayia.

Translation:

Âishah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا reports that once while Rasûlullâh ﷺ was seated in the musjid, a woman who was attractively adorned, proudly entered the musjid. Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "O people, prohibit your women from wearing attractive garments and from showing off in the musjid, because the Banû Isrâîl were not cursed until their women started to wear attractive garments and showing off inside the musjid.

3) The use of perfume was forbidden. Women who came to the musjid in the early days were not permitted to apply perfume.

Imâm Tirmizî (279 A.H.) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadith:

عن أبي موسى قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم كل عين زانية وإن المرأة إذا

استعطرت فمرت بال محلس فهى كذا وكذا يعني زانية^{١١٦}

وقال المخاطب البصري في الزوال : هذا اسناد ضعيف داود بن سدرك لا يعرف ومرسى بن عيادة ضعيف اخ . وأورده الحافظ المنذري في الترغيب (باب ترهيب المرأة ان تخرج من بيتها متغيرة ومتزينة) .

رواہ الترمذی - مشکوہ ص ۳۱۲ دار الفکر و ص ۹۶ النسخة الباکستانية قال المخاطب^{١١٦}
المنذري في الترغيب : رواه ابیر داود والترمذی وقال حديث حسن صحیح . ورواہ النسالی وابن
خریمة وابن حبان في صحیحهما ولفظهم قال النبي صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم ایما امراة استعطرت
فمرت على قوم لبعد ریحها فھی زانية وكل عین زانية ورواہ الحاکم ايضاً وقال صحیح الایناد
اه (وأقره علیه الذهنی) .

Translation:

Abū Mûsâ ﷺ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Every eye can commit adultery. And any woman who applies perfume and passes by a gathering is an adulteress."

Imâm Muslim (261 A.H.) حمد، has narrated the following hadith in his *Sahîh*:

"إذا شهدت إحداكن المسجد فلا تمس طيباً" ^{١١٧}

Translation:

"When any of you (women) attend the masjid, she should not apply perfume."

Imâm Wâli-ud-Dîn حمد، has narrated the following hadith in *Mishkâtul Masâbih*:

عن أبى هريرة رضى الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم أيا امرأة أصابت

"بنوراً فلا تشهد معنا العشاء الآخرة" ^{١١٨}

Translation:

Abû Hurairah ﷺ reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The woman who applies perfume must not be present with us for Ishâ."

Since it is not permissible for women to emerge

^{١١٧} صحيح مسلم حديث ١٤٢ من ٧٤٨ دار السلام و من ١٨٣ النسخة الباكستانية

^{١١٨} صحيح مسلم حديث ١٤٢ من ٧٤٨ دار السلام و من ١٨٣ النسخة الباكستانية و منكرة
المراجع من ٩٦ النسخة الباكستانية

from the house with perfume applied, be it night or day, the reference to Ishâ in this hadîth should not be understood to be confined to only Ishâ salâh. The word Ishâ appears in the hadîth in view of the greater danger of misconduct and evil during the night time. The ahâdîth of Rasûlullâh ﷺ clearly brand a woman as immoral for applying perfume and emerging from the home.

Hâfiż Ibn Hajar Asqalânî (852 A.H.) writes:

ريلحق بالطيب ما في معتاه لأن سبب المنع منه ما فيه من تحريض داعية الشهوة كحسن

^{١١٩} الملبس والخليل الذي يظهر والزينة الفاخرة

Translation:

"All things similar to perfume are included in the prohibition because the reason for the prohibition is creating lust eg. attractive clothing, visible jewellery and enticing beauty."

4) The *jilbâb* (outer covering like a cloak) is indispensable. When women emerged in those days, they were thoroughly concealed in their *jilbâbs* which were large, loose outer garments or sheets of unattractive colour. The *jilbâb* was not merely flung over the shoulders. Neither did it have

^{١١٩} فتح الباري ج ١ ص ٢٧٩ طار احياء الغرب - بيروت و لامع اللدراري على حاص المحترى ج ٣٥٧

any decorative or fancy lacing or *niqâb* (face-veil). It was not designed to be attractive as are the cloaks of today. The *jilbâb* covered the entire body, the head and face included. It only had one opening for looking with one eye.

Hâfiż Ismâîl Ibn Kathîr (774 A.H) رحمه اللہ عنہ writes in his *Tafsîr*:

عن ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما : أمر الله نساء للزمتين اذا خرجن من بيوتن في حاجة أن يغطين ووجوههن من فرق رؤوسهن بالخلاليب ويدنن عينا واحدة^{١٢٠}

Translation:

Abdullâh Ibn Abbâs رضي الله عنهما states that Allâh ordered the Muslim women to cover their faces from above their heads with *jilbâbs* when they emerge from their homes for any necessity while they could expose one eye (for vision).

Hâfiż Ismâîl Ibn Kathîr رحمه اللہ عنہ further writes:

وقال محمد بن سيرين سأله عبيدة السلمان عن قول الله عز وجل (يدنن عيونهن من

^{١٢٠} تفسير ابن كثير ج ٣ ص ٥١٨ و رواية البخاري تفسير آيات القراءات ج ٢ ص ٣٧٥ و حاشية الجسل على الخلايلين

^{١٢١} ملائين) لفظي وجهه و رأسه و أبرز عنقه اليسرى

Translation:

Ibn Sîrîn says that he asked Ubâidah Salmânî مسند، about the verse, "They should draw their jilbâbs over themselves". He took a sheet which he had with him and covered himself with it. He covered his whole head until it reached his eyebrows. Then he covered his face and exposed only one eye.

This narration clearly indicates how a woman should conceal herself.

Abû Hayyân Andalûsî (745 A.H.) روى، the celebrated scholar of Tafsîr writes:

^{١٢٢} تل أبو حيان: وكلها عادة بلاد الأندلس لا يظهر من المرأة إلا عينها الواحدة

Translation:

This was the prevalent custom in Spain where the women only exposed one eye (and the rest of the body was completely concealed).

^{١٢١} ابن حجر على تفسير الطبرى ج ١٠ ص ٣٣٣

^{١٢٢} البحر الخبط ج ٧ ص ٢٠٠

Imām Abū Bakr Jassās (370 A.H.) writes:

لَا نَزَّلَتْ هَذِهِ الْآيَةُ (بِدِينِهِنَّ عَلَيْهِنَّ مِنْ حَلَابِهِنَّ) خَرَجَ لِسَاءُ الْأَنْصَارِ كَانُوا عَلَى رِهْسِهِنَّ
الْغَرْبَانِ مِنْ أَكْسَبَةِ سَرْدَ يَلْبِسُهَا^{١٢٣}

Translation:

When the verse, "They should draw their jilbâbs over themselves" was revealed, the women of the Ansâr came out as if they had crows on their heads, that is, they were completely clad in black. The resemblance to black crows is due to the black cloaks which they had donned.

Imām Bukhārī (256 A.H.) has narrated the following hadîth:

مَنْ عَالَثَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا قَالَتْ لَهُ قَاتِلَتْ كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَصْلِي الْفَحْرَ
فَشَهِدَ مَعَهُ نِسَاءٌ مِّنَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتِ مُنْتَهِيَاتٍ لِمَرْوِطِهِنَّ ثُمَّ بَرَحْنَ إِلَى بِرْمَنَ مَا يَرْفَهُنَّ
أَحَدٌ^{١٢٤}

Translation:

Âishah ﷺ reports _that after Rasûlullâh ﷺ had

¹²³أحكام القرآن للحساين ج ٢ ص ٣٧٢ لال المختطف السيوطي في الدر المنثور ٦/٦٥٩ : اخرجه عبد
العزيز و عبد الرحمن مهدى وأبو داود (كتاب النساء) و ابن المدر و ابن أبي حاتم و ابن مردويه عن أم سلمة.

¹²⁴صحیح البخاری حدثت ٣٧٢ فار السلام - رياض و ج ١ ص ٥٠ النسخة الباكستانية

completed the Fajr salâh, the women would return home thoroughly wrapped in their sheets. They were so thoroughly covered that no one could recognize them.

5) Immediate Departure. The women had to leave the musjid immediately after the fard salâh. The following narration of *Sahîh Bukhârî* explains the practice which was adopted to ensure absolutely no contact with any males:

عن أم سلمة رضي الله عنها قالت كان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إذا سلم قام النساء
حين يقضى تسلية ويعكت هو في مقامه يسراً قبل أن يفرج^{١٢٣}

Translation:

Umme Salmah ﷺ, the wife of Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "When Rasûlullâh ﷺ used to make salâm (to terminate his salâh), the women would stand up (and depart) after he completed his salâm and he would remain seated for a while before standing up."

Commenting on this procedure adopted in the early days, Imâm Zuhri محدث states:

¹²³ صحيح البخاري حديث ٨٧٠ ص ٦٨ فار السلام و ع ١ ص ١٢٠ السنة الابكشابة

قال نرى والله أعلم أن ذلك كان لكي تصرف النساء قبل أن يدركهن من الرجال^{١٢٦}

Translation:

"The reason for Rasûlullâh's ﷺ delay in rising after the fard salâh was to give the women the opportunity of leaving the musjid before the men." This prevented intermingling of the sexes.

6) A woman required her husband's permission to attend the congregation. Imâm Bukhârî (256 A.H.) has narrated the following hadîth:

عن ابن عمر رضى الله عنهما عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال اذا استاذنكم نساءكم
بالليل الى المسجد فاذدوا لهن^{١٢٧}

Translation:

Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "When your women seek your permission to attend the musjid at night, then grant them permission."

Hâfiż Ibn Hajar (852 A.H.) محدث، states that had it been obligatory to attend the musjid, the condition of asking the husband would not have been made because it is not essential to seek permission for the compulsory acts of worship. This also indicates that it was not mustahab for the women to attend the congregation.

^{١٢٦} صحيح البخاري حديث ٣٧٢ من ٢٢ وع ١ ص ٦٠ السنة الباكتانية

^{١٢٧} صحيح البخاري حديث ٨٦٥ من ٦٨ دار السلام وع ١ ص ١١١ السنة الباكتانية

The Conduct of the Sahâbah ﷺ

After the demise of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, even the Sahâbah ﷺ discerned the difficulty in enforcing the strict or the exceptionally high degree of piety which had prevailed during the presence of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Accordingly, they did not concern themselves with remedial measures. On the contrary, they banned the practice of women coming to the masjid. Their insight convinced them that if women are not prevented from the masjid, the situation will deteriorate to the extent where the masjids will be no better than the Christian churches. The consequences of females participating in public worship in congregational form are aptly mirrored in the churches.

Umar ﷺ as well as other Sahaba ﷺ passed the judgement that women should not attend the Masâjid due to this very same carelessness and disregard for the limitations. The remainder of the Sahaba ﷺ agreed to this and none amongst them objected.

According to the jurists, every order of the Qur'ân has a certain degree. The words used for a command sometimes indicate compulsion eg.

أَبِرُوا الصَّلَاةَ - "Perform salâh."

Sometimes it indicates permissibility eg. The verse:

ولذا حلتكم فاصطادوا

"When you are out of ihrâm, then you may hunt." This verse indicates the permissibility of hunting. It is not incumbent to hunt after one has come out of ihrâm.

The jurists state that the order to attend the congregation in the musjid was emphasized for males. However, this order was neither emphasized nor *mustahab* for females. It is for this reason that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said,

عن أبا هريرة رضي الله عنه عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال لولا ما في البيوت من النساء والذرية أقت صلاة المثاء وأمرت قيام بحرقهن ما في البيوت بالنار^{١٢٨}

Translation:

"Had there been no women and children at home, I would have ordered those houses to be burnt."

This refers to the homes of those males who do not attend the congregation

From the above hadîth it is evident that the women used to perform salât at home and it was not necessary for

^{١٢٨} رواه أحمد - مشكورة من ٣١٠ حار الفكر - بيروت و من ٩٧ النسخة الباتجانية ذكره المحققون للفتح (باب وحرب صلبة الجماعة) روى عليه روى المبسوط بجمع الزوائد ٤٢٢ روأه أحمد وأبو معشر ضعيف انظر المسند ٣٦٧٢.

them to join the jamâ'at, and because of these very women and children, Nabi ﷺ did not command the burning of the homes of those people who miss the jamâ'at. The mention of women in this hadîth indicates that they were not obligated to attend the congregation otherwise they would also have been liable for punishment. In spite of the greater rewards of congregation (27 times greater than individually-performed salâh), the fifty thousand rewards of performing salâh in Musjidun Nabawî and the great fortune of performing salâh behind Rasûlullâh ﷺ, they were encouraged to perform salâh at home where the rewards for them were greater. Had salâh in the musjid been sunnah for women, would Nabi ﷺ have commanded them to go against the sunnah? Could he have ordered them to do something that was less virtuous?

Imâm Zainud-Dîn Irâqî (806 A.H.) رحمه الله، writes:

إِنْ إِطْلَاقُ الْخُرُوجِ مِنْ أَلِّ الْمَسَاجِدِ إِبَاحةٌ لَا نِسْبَةٌ وَلَا فَرْضٌ^{١٢٤}

Translation:

“The general emergence of the women to the musjid was only a permission. It was neither preferable nor obligatory.”

Imâm Abû Bakr Ibn Abî Shaybah (235 A.H.) رحمه الله، states:

عن ابن عمر انه كان لا يدع امرأة من أهله تخرج الى فطر ولا الى أضحي^{١٣٥}

Translation:

Abdullâh Ibn Umar did not allow the women folk of his family to attend either Eidul Fitr or Eidul Adhâ.

Imâm Ibn Abî Shaybah (235 A.H.) رحمه الله, has also narrated a similar view of Ibrâhîm Nakhaî رحمه الله, and Qâsim رحمه الله.

The Best Place of Worship for Women

Rasûlullâh ﷺ certainly permitted the women to attend but in the same breath, he said that the best musjid of a woman was the inner recess of her home.

The Muhaddith, Muhammad Ibn Abdullâh Al-Hâkim (405 A.H.) رحمه الله, narrates:

عَنْ لَمْ سَلَةِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا زَوْجِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ خَيْرُ مَسَاجِدِ النِّسَاءِ قَبْرُ

^{١٣٦}
يَتَمَّ

^{١٣٥} المصنف لأبي أيوب شيبة ج ٢ ص ١٨٣ نشرة القرآن باكستان

لشتر تعاکر ج ١ ص ٢٠٩ أخرجوا الحاکم من طریق دراج عن السیف مول لم سلطة عنها^{١٣٧}
وکفت لمد وابن حربة . ودراج ایما يضعف في حدیثه عن أبي الحییم (وإن عالج بعضاً به) انظر ترجمة
لـ الكاف وتعذیل الشیع عمد عولمة عليه . وتقال لخاتم النبییین فی طریق دراج (باب ترغیب الشادن
المعلوہ بیوقتی زواجه لمد والطیران دلکه وی ایاده این فیضه وروزه این حربة فی صحیحه والحاکم
من طریق دراج ایا الشیع عمد سلطة عنها وتقال این حربة: لا تعرف الشیع عمد ایا

Translation:

Umme Salmah ﷺ says that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "The best masjid of a woman is the innermost recess of her home."

The Muhibbī, Tabrānī شـ، has narrated the following hadīth:

عن أم سلمة رضي الله عنها زوج النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم فاتت قاتل رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم صلاة المرأة في بيتها خمسة من صلاتها في حجرها خمسة من صلاتها في دارها خمسة من صلاتها في مسجد قومها

¹²²

Translation:

سلة بصلة ورح وقل المذاكم صحيحة الأساند
تبريات : الأزل؛ لم يخرج هذا الحديث في سنده من طريقهن أحاديثها فربما لم يجدهم على طرائقهم
لله تکرر وثباته عن رشدين (صحيح) حتى عسره عن تحقيق (غير صحيح) عدد عشرة تبريات نسب
٢٩٢/٩.

الثانى: لم يأخذ قولى لمى حرية هناك للطبع ٢٢/٢ تحت هذا المذكرة
ثالث: لم يأخذ قول المذاكم صحيحة الأساند فى نظرى ٢٠٥/١.
ولما ذكرت سولى لهم سلة تقدى ذكره لى فى حامى الملح ومحاسيل ونهرى كمر وبه سرحان ولا تسدل لوح
١ من ٢١٣ رقم ١٠٤٣) وكفالت العمارى فى المذكرة فى المذكرة (ج ١ ص ١٥٦ رقم ٢٢٩٥) ووسمه من حد
٢ ٢٠٠/٢ ونقل توثيقه عن المحقق فى الأكمل والمذكرة فى تحرير المذكرة وتحقيق شرعة نظر المذكرة
(الله تکرر) والله أعلم.

¹²² رواه الطبراني - الطبراني و ثورب ج ١ ص ٢٢٦ مذكرة ثورب الثرى و قل المذاكم و ثورب
روايه الطبراني في الأوسط بالكتاب حيث ثورب و ثورب مشوش

Umme Salmah ﷺ says that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "It is better for a woman to perform her salāh in her bedroom than performing salāh in her chamber and her salāh in her chamber is better than her salāh in her courtyard and her salāh in her courtyard is better than her salāh in the local masjid."

The author of *Majmauz-Zawāid*, Hāfiẓ Nūrud-Dīn Ali Ibn Abī Bakr Al-Haythamī (807 A.H.) رحمه اللہ عزیز، states:

وَعَنْ أُمِّ سَلْمَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ صَلَاةُ الْمَرْأَةِ فِي
بَيْتِهَا خَيْرٌ مِّنْ صَلَاةِ قَاعِدَةِ حَرْنَقَةٍ وَصَلَاةِ قَاعِدَةِ حَرْنَقَةٍ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ صَلَاةِ دَارِهَا وَصَلَاةِ قَاعِدَةِ
دَارِهَا خَيْرٌ مِّنْ صَلَاةِ قَاعِدَةِ خَارِجٍ^{١٢٣}

Translation:

Umme Salmah ﷺ says that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "The salāh of a woman in her bedroom is better than her salāh in her room and her salāh in her room is better than her salāh in her courtyard and her salāh in her courtyard is better than her salāh outside."

This hadīth and others similar to it indicate that the further a woman goes away from her place of concealment, the less her reward becomes. The

^{١٢٣} روى الطحاوي في الأوضاع - صحيح البخاري ج ٢ ص ٢٤ قال النبي : روى الطحاوي في الأوضاع ورسالة
رجل المسجع ملائكة من الماء فلما تقدّم ساقه لم يذكر له روى عاصم بن زيد أن

reason for this is that the further she goes away from her home, the more chances of misconduct there are, otherwise there was no reason to decrease her reward. This fear of misdemeanour does not arise from males; as a consequence, the further a male goes, the greater his reward.¹³⁴

Abū Mūsâ Ash'arî رضي الله عنه reports,

عن أبي موسى الأشعري رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إن أعظم أجرًا في الصلاة أبعدهم إليها مشى¹³⁵

Translation:

Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Those who come for salâh from far off will obtain greater reward and those who arrive from further afield will receive even greater reward than them."

Jâbir رضي الله عنه narrates the following hadîth,

عن جابر رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم لبني سلمة حين أرادوا أن يقلروا قرب المسجد دياركم تكتب أثاركم دياركم تكتب أثاركم¹³⁶

¹³⁴ كفاية الفتن ج ٠ ص ٤١٥

¹³⁵ سمع البخاري وسمع سلم حديث ٢٧٧ ص ٧٨١ دار السلام وج ١ ص ٢٣٥
السنة الباكستانية

¹³⁶ سمع سلم حديث ٢٨٠ ص ٧٨١ دار السلام وج ١ ص ٢٣٦ السنة الباكستانية

Translation:

Rasûlullâh ﷺ said to the tribe of Banû Salmah when they intended to move closer to the musjid, "Remain in your homes for the rewards of your steps taken to the musjid will be recorded." He repeated this for a second time.

الحادي (275 A.H.)
The Muhaddith, Imâm Abû Dâwûd narrates:

عَنْ أَبِنِ عَصْرٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لَا تُنْعِرَا نِسَاءَكُمْ
السَّاجِدَ وَيَتَّهَمُ خَوْلُ مَنْ^{١٣٧}

Translation:

Abdullah Ibn Umar رضي الله عنهما reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Do not prohibit your women from the musjid and their houses are better for them."

The above Hadith is an order for men that if women seek permission to attend the Musjid (on condition there exists no possibility of immorality) then do not prevent them. However, women were encouraged that they should perform their salât at home instead of the Musjid because it is more virtuous for them to do so.

More encouragement is found in the Hadith of Abdullah

^{١٣٧} درواز اور دارود - منکروہ ص ۲۱۲ در المکر - بیرون و ص ۹۶ المسند الباکستانیہ . قال الحافظ
ل الشیخ (ج ۲ ص ۲۷۶) امراء اور دارود و مصححہ ابن حجر

bin Masûd ﷺ He reports^{١٣٨} that Nabi ﷺ said:

عن ابن مسعود رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم صلاة المرأة في بيتها أفضل من صلاتها في حجرها وصلاتها في خذعها أفضل من صلاتها في بيتهما

Translation:

"It is more virtuous for a woman to perform her salât in the confines of her house rather than performing it in the courtyard and it is more virtuous to perform salât in an inner bedroom in comparison to performing it in the other sections of the house."

Due to the encouragement of Nabi ﷺ, many women used to perform their salât at their homes instead of coming to Musjidun Nabawi and a few women on a special basis used to seek permission from Nabi ﷺ to perform salât in the Musjid as they knew that the desire of Nabi ﷺ was that women should perform salât at home. This is evident from the following hadîth of Umme Humaid:

رواية أبو داود - مشكورة ص ٣١٢ دار الفكر - بيروت وص ٩٦ السنة الباكتانية. وأخرجه ابن حميد في صحيحه وتردد في صياغة هذا الخبر من طريق تله المثري في الترمي. وقال المحققون في الكتب الطريف (ج ٧ ص ١٣١) بعد ما أوردوا المزي من طريق محمد بن الشنف عن عاصم عن عاصم عن عمّام من خاتمة من طريق العطلي عن أبي الأحوص عن ابن مسعود قال لكن قال ابن أبي حاتم عن أبيه : رواه ثني القطان عن شعبة عن قاتمة عن عقبة بن وساج عن أبي الأحوص وهو أشبه به . وكلام أبي حاتم هنا في المطر (١/٨١) إلا أنه قاله في حديث لابن مسعود الذي جاء به عن السندي للذكر ولقطع الحديث فضل حسنة الرحيل في المسألة.

عن أم حميد امرأة أبى حميد الساعدي رضى الله عنهمَا أهْمَا جاءَت إِلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَقَالَتْ يَا رَسُولَ اللهِ إِنِّي أَحْبُّ الصَّلَاةَ مَعْكَ فَقَالَ قَدْ عَلِمْتَ أَنَّكَ تُحِبُّ الصَّلَاةَ مَعِي وَصَلَاتِكَ لَنْ يَكُونَ هُنْدَرَةَ مِنْ صَلَاتِكَ فِي دَارِكَ وَصَلَاتِكَ فِي دَارِكَ هُنْدَرَةَ مِنْ صَلَاتِكَ لَنْ حِجْرَتِكَ وَصَلَاتِكَ لَنْ حِجْرَتِكَ هُنْدَرَةَ مِنْ صَلَاتِكَ لَنْ مَسْجِدَ قَرْمَكَ وَصَلَاتِكَ لَنْ سَمْدَ قَوْمَكَ خَيْرَ مِنْ صَلَاتِكَ لَنْ مَسْجِدِي قَالَ: فَأَمْرَتْ لِبْنَهُ لِمَنْ لَمْ يَكُنْ لِّلْعَصَى شَيْءٌ مِّنْ بَيْنِهَا وَأَفْلَمَهُ وَكَانَتْ تَصْلِي فِي حَقِّ لِنْبِتِ اللهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ^{١٣٩}

Translation:

Umme Humaid ﷺ reports that she went to Nabi ﷺ and said: “I have the desire to perform salât with you, O Messenger of Allah!”

Nabi ﷺ replied: “Verily I know you desire to perform salât with me (your fervour is commendable and it is a religious fervour) but performing salât in your inner room is more virtuous than performing it in an outer room, and your salât in the outer room is better than your salât in the courtyard and your salât performed in the courtyard is better than your salât performed in your local Musjid. Your salât performed in the local Musjid is better than your salât performed in my Musjid (i.e. Musjid-e-Nabawi).” She ordered that a musjid be built for her in her house where she continued performing

^{١٣٩} رواه نحمد - الترهيب والترهيب ج ١ ص ٢٢٥ دار احياء التراث العربي و قال المخاطط في الفتح (٤٦)
انتهاء المسند، الاسم المأثير (ولاحد ولا طرور) من حديث أم حميد الساعديه أنها جاءت .. مذكرة جعلها
الله تعالى نحمد الله تعالى شاهدة من حديث ابن مسعود عبد الله بن زيد اخوه (فتح الباري ٢٧٩/٢)

salâh till the end of her life.

On the basis of this hadith, Ibn Khuzaimah رحمه الله، a leading member of the Shâfi'i Fuqahâ stated:

باب اختيار صلاة المرأة في حجرتها على صلاتها في دارها وصلاتها في مسجد قومها على صلاتها في مسجد النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم وإن كانت صلاة في مسجد النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم تعدل ألف صلاة في غيرها من المساجد والدليل على أن قول النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم صلاة في مسجدي هذا أفضلي من ألف صلاة فيما سواه من المساجد أراد به صلاة الرجال دون صلاة النساء^{١٤٠}

Translation:

"...The salâh of a woman in her room is superior to her salâh in the musjid of Rasûlullâh ﷺ even if her salâh there be the equivalent (in quality) of a thousand salâhs performed by males."

Ibn Khuzaimah رحمه الله further narrates:

عن عبد الله رضي الله عنه عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال إن أحب صلاة نصليها المرأة إلى الله في أشد مكان في بيته ظلمة^{١٤١}

Translation:

Abdullah bin Masûd ؓ states: "The most beloved salât

^{١٤٠} صحيح ابن خزيمة ج ٢ ص ٩٢

آخره ابن خزيمة والطبراني في الكبير وقال المبسوط ٣٥/٢ رجاله موثقون وأخرجه ابن خزيمة^{١٤١} من حديث أبي هريرة كذلك.

of a woman in the eyes of Allah is that salât which she performs in the darkest portion of her house".

Imâm Tabrânî رحمه الله، has narrated the following hadîth:

عن ابن مسعود رضي الله عنه قال صلاة المرأة في بيتها أفضل من صلاتها في حجرها
وصلاتها في حجرها أفضل من صلاتها في دارها وصلاتها في دارها أفضل من صلاتها فيما
سرها ثم قال إن المرأة إذا خرجت استشرفها الشيطان^{١٤٢}

Translation:

Ibn Masûd رضي الله عنه states, "It is better for a woman to perform her salâh in her bedroom than performing salâh in her chamber and her salâh in her chamber is better than her salâh in her courtyard and her salâh in her courtyard is better than her salâh in other places." Then he said, "When a woman emerges, shaytân lies in wait for her."

Imâm Tabrânî رحمه الله، again narrates:

عن ابن مسعود رضي الله عنه عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال المرأة عورة وإنما إذا

^{١٤٢} درواد الطهارة للكبير - بجمع الزوائد ج ٢ ص ٣٤ نقل المنهى: رجاله رجال الصحيح وانتظر لروا

آخر لابن مسعود في الترجمة لابن حزم ص ١٨

^{١٤٣}

خرجت استشرفها الشيطان وإنما أقرب ما تكون إلى الله وهي في قبريتها

Translation:

Ibn Mas'ûd ﷺ reports from Nabî ﷺ that a woman is a thing to be concealed. When she emerges, shaytan lies in wait for her. And she is closest to Allâh in the innermost recess of her home.

Allâmah Abdul Azîm Al-Munzirî (656 A.H) has narrated the following hadîth:

عن عبد الله بن مسعود رضي الله عنه عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال المرأة عورة وإنما إذا خرجت من بيتها استشرفها الشيطان وإنما لا تكون أقرب إلى الله منها في قبر

^{١٤٤}
بيتها

Translation:

Abdullâh Ibn Mas'ûd ﷺ also reports that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "A woman is a thing to be concealed.

^{١٤٣} رواه الطبراني في الكبير - بجمع الزوائد ج ٢ ص ٣٥ وقال الميسى : رجاله سوقيون . و قال الحافظ

الثوري في الترغيب عن ابن مسعود عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال المرأة عورة فإذا خرجت استشرفها الشيطان رواه الترمذى وقال حديث حسن صحيح غريب وابن مسعود وابن حسان في صحاحهما بلطفه وزاد وأقرب ما تكون من وحدها وهي في قبر بيتهما . اه

^{١٤٤} رواه الطبراني في الأوسط - الترغيب والترمذ ج ١ ص ٢٢٦

When she emerges from the house, shaytān lies in wait for her. (Shaytān whispers evil thoughts in the people's minds regarding her). A woman is closest to Allāh in the innermost portion of her home."

Imām Ibn Mājah (273 A.H) حَدَّثَنَا has narrated the following hadīth:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ أَنَّهُ لَقِيَ امْرَأَةً مُتَطَهِّرَةً تَرِيدُ الْمَسْجِدَ قَالَ لَهَا أَمْمَةُ الْجَبَارِ أَنِّي
تَرِيدُنِي؟ قَالَتِ الْمَسْجِدَ قَالَ وَلَهُ تَطَيِّبُتْ؟ قَالَتْ نَعَمْ قَالَ سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ
وَسَلَّمَ يَقُولُ أَيُّمَا امْرَأَةٌ تَطَيِّبُتْ ثُمَّ خَرَجَتْ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ لَمْ تَقْبِلْ لَهَا صَلَاةٌ حَتَّى تَغْسلَ^{١43}

Translation:

Abū Hurairah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ saw a woman applying perfume and entering the musjid. He asked her, "O bondswoman of Allāh, where are you going?" She replied, "To the musjid." He asked her, "Did you apply perfume for this reason (to attend the musjid)?" She replied in the affirmative. Abū Hurairah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ said, "I heard Rasūlullāh ﷺ saying that the woman who applies perfume and goes to the musjid, her salāh will not be accepted until she baths i.e. removes all traces of the perfume."

Imām Tabrānī حَدَّثَنَا, states:

^{١٤٣} سنن ابن ماجه ج ٢ ص ١٣٦٦ دار الفكر و حدیث ٤٠٠٢ ص ٢٧١٧ دار السلام
المراحض، و ص ٢٨٨ النحو المأكثنة و ملخص سنن أبي داود من باب التزحلق بالمناط
الدرى رواه الطبرانى في الأرسسط و رجاله رجال الصحيح. وهو شبه ماقتبس

عن أم حميد رضي الله عنها قالت قلت يا رسول الله يمنعنا أزواجنا أن نصلى معك ونخب الصلاة معك فقال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم صلاتكن في بيتكن أفضل من صلاتكن في حجركن وصلاتكن في حجركن أفضل من صلاتكن في دوركن وصلاتكن في دوركن أفضل من صلاتكن في الجماعة^{١٤٦}

Translation:

Umme Humaid (the wife of the Sahâbî, Abû Humaid As-Sâ'îdî) said that the men of her tribe used to prohibit their women from attending the musjid. She told Rasûlullâh that they very much desired to perform salâh in congregation with him but their husbands were preventing them from doing so. Rasûlullâh replied, "For you to perform salâh in your inner rooms is better than performing salâh in your chambers. And performing salâh in your chambers is better than salâh in your courtyards. And performing salâh in your courtyard is better than performing salâh in congregation (with me in Musjidun Nabawî)."

قالت فامرت ببني لها مسجد في أقصى بيت في بيتها وأظلمه فكانت تصلى فيه حتى لقيت

^{١٤٦} رواه الطبراني د الكبیر - بجمع الزوائد ج ٢ ص ٣٤ . قال المیشی رواه الطبرانی فی الكبیر ونیه ابن طبیعہ ونیه کلام . وقد مر باختلاف بیسی . وآخریه أحادیث غوره ونیه امریکیه حسن اسناده .

الله عز وجل^{١٤٧}

Translation:

Thereafter Umme Humaid ﷺ ordered a place to be made for salâh for her in the darkest room of her house and she performed salâh there till her death.

Imâm Bukhârî (256 A.H) رحمه الله has narrated the following hadîth:

عن عائشة رضي الله عنها قالت لو أدرك رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ما أحدث

النّاء لتهنن السجد كما منعت نساء بنى إسرائيل^{١٤٨}

Translation:

Âishah ﷺ says, "Had Rasûlullâh ﷺ seen the behaviour of women, he would have prohibited them from going to the musjid as the women of the Banû Isrâîl were prohibited."

Commenting on the statement of Âishah ﷺ, Moulânâ Muhammad Yahyâ Kândhelwî (1334

^{١٤٧} قال المفسّر: رواه أحمد ورواه رحال البسجع عن عبد الله بن سعيد الأنصاري وثقة ابن جبل.

^{١٤٨} صحح البخاري ج ١ ص ١٢٠ وصحح مسلم ج ١ ص ١٨٣ وصحح عبد الرزاق ج ٢ ص

A.H.) حـدـثـا، writes in *Al-Kaukabud-Durri*:

فهـنـا مـنـ قـرـلـهـ دـلـبـلـ عـلـىـ سـعـةـ عـلـمـهـاـ وـوـفـرـ حـكـتـهـ^{١٤٩}

Translation:

"The statement of 'Aishah ﷺ indicates her vast knowledge and abundant wisdom."

When Amīrul 'Mu'minīn Umar ﷺ finally enacted the prohibition to prevent women from going to the musjid, they complained to 'Aishah ﷺ.

Allāmah Muhammad Ibn Mahmūd Akmalud-Dīn Al-Bābārtī، حـدـثـا، states:

ولقد هـنـيـ عـرـ النـسـاءـ مـنـ الـخـرـجـ إـلـىـ الـمـسـجـدـ نـشـكـرـدـ إـلـىـ هـائـشـةـ رـضـيـ اللـهـ عـنـ هـنـيـ فـقـاتـ

^{١٥٠} لـوـ عـلـمـ الـنـبـيـ صـلـىـ اللـهـ عـلـيـهـ وـسـلـمـ مـاـ عـلـمـ عـرـ رـضـيـ اللـهـ عـنـ مـاـ أـذـنـ لـكـنـ بـيـ الـخـرـجـ

Translation:

Umar ﷺ had prohibited the women from attending the musjid. As a result, the women complained to 'Aishah ﷺ. In response to their complaint, 'Aishah ﷺ

^{١٤٩} الحـكـيـمـ الـدـيـريـ عـلـىـ حـاجـ لـلـزـمـنـ حـ1 صـ٢٢

^{١٥٠} الـحـاجـ خـرـجـ لـلـنـسـاءـ مـعـ خـرـجـ فـيـ جـمـدـ حـ1 صـ٣٦

replied, "If Nabi ﷺ had known what Umar knows (of the condition of women), he would not have granted you permission to emerge (i.e. to leave your homes and come to the masjid for salâh).

Sheikh Ibn Arabî (543 A.H) محدث, states in his annotation of *Jâmi' Tirmizî*:

رأى عائشة وابن مسعود رضي الله عنهما في جماعة أن يمنع النساء المساجد وأن يلزم من

فقر بيرمن^{١٣١}

Translation:

"Aishah ؓ and Ibn Mas'ûd ؓ are of the opinion that women should be prevented from the Musjids and that they should necessarily cling to the dark corners of their home (when performing salâh)."

Hâfiż Nûrud-Dîn Alî Ibn Abî Bakr Al-Haythamî (807 A.H.) محدث, states:

ولعمر حد أحاديث عن سالم قال كاد مهر رجلا فبررا فكان إذا خرج إلى المضلاة تبعه

^{١٥٢} عائكة بنت زيد فكان يكره خروجها ويفكره منها

Translation:

When Umar رضي الله عنهما used to proceed to the musjid for salâh, his wife Âtikah رضي الله عنها used to follow him. Umar رضي الله عنهما was extremely bashful and disliked her going to the musjid.

Imâm Bukhâri (256. A.H) رضي الله عنهما, has narrated the following hadîth:

عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنهمَا قال كانت امرأة لعمر تشهد صلاة الصبح والعشاء في الجماعة خفيف لما لم تغرين وقد تعلمين أن عمر يكره ذلك وينظر قالت فما يمنعه أن

^{١٥٣} ينهان قالوا يمنعه قوله رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم لا تمنعوا اماء الله ماجد الله

Translation:

Abdullâh Ibn Umar رضي الله عنهما reports that the wife of Umar رضي الله عنهما used to attend the Fajr and Ishâ Salâts in the musjid. She was asked why she went out when she knew that Umar رضي الله عنهما disliked this act and he was bashful. She asked, "Then why does he not prevent me from going?" The people said, "The statement of Rasûlullâh صلی اللہ علیہ وسَلَّمَ 'Do not prevent the female slaves

of Allāh from attending the musjids of Allāh' prevents him from doing so."

This hadīth explicitly states that Umar رض disliked women attending the Fajr and Ishā Salāts. This hadīth is reported in Muwattā Imām Mālik with the statement that when the wife of Umar رض would ask him permission to attend, he would remain silent. The above narration of Bukhārī explicitly indicates that the silence of Umar رض was not due to his acceptance but on the contrary it was due to abhorrence.

Ātikah رض, the wife of Umar رض, explaining her reason for having discontinued her practice of attending the masjid, said,

¹⁵⁴ "کاشرخ حن کاد الناس نا"

Translation:

"We used to emerge when people where yet people."

Hadrat Ātikah's attitude indicates that the practice of women attending the masjid was discontinued in the early stages of Islam.

Âtikah was initially married to Abdullah, the son of Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه. They were greatly attached to each other. When he was martyred, she married Umar رضي الله عنه. According to a narration, she married Zaid Ibn Khattâb رضي الله عنه first before marrying Umar رضي الله عنه. After the demise of Umar رضي الله عنه, Zubair Ibnul Awwâm رضي الله عنه proposed to her. She was a beautiful woman and possessed excellent character. She made a condition with him not to prevent her from attending the musjid for Ishâ Salâh, not to beat her and not to prohibit her rights. These were the same three conditions she had made with Umar رضي الله عنه. Zubair رضي الله عنه accepted these conditions although he disliked her action of going out. When he told her about his feelings, she asked him why he did not prevent her. He replied that he had to abide by the condition she had initially made. Nevertheless, he thought of a plan in order to prevent her from leaving the home. One day he waited for her to pass by on the road to the musjid. It was dark and she did not see him. As she passed by, he touched her buttocks. She became very upset and immediately recited,

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Translation:

“To Allâh do we belong and to him do we return.” Then she returned home. On the following day when it was time for the Ishâ Salâh and she heard the azân, she did not make any movement. Zubair

asked her the reason for not doing so. She replied that the times had become corrupt. She then took an oath never to go out again. Zubair now knew that she would never emerge again. He then informed her of what had happened. According to one narration, after the death of Zubair she married Hasan Ibn Ali who was her last husband.¹⁵³

Imâm Tabrâni has narrated the following hadîth:

عن أبي عصرو الشيباني أنه رأى عبد الله يخرج النساء من المسجد يوم الجمعة ويقول
آخر من ألا يهونك خبر لكن¹⁵⁴

Translation:

Abû Amr As-Shaybânî narrates that he saw Abdullâh Ibn Mas'ûd expelling the women from the musjid on Fridays and saying to them, "Go home as your homes are better for you."

Commenting on this hadîth, Muftî Kifâyatullâh

¹⁵³ التمهيد لابن عبد البر ج ١٠ ص ٢٤٥، ٢٤٦ والاستعاب ج ٧ ص ١٨٧٩ رقم ٤٠٢٤.

¹⁵⁴ رواه الطبراني في الكبير - جمجم الروايات ج ٢ ص ٢٥ اثر عبد الله بن مسعود قال المنسى في الجمجمة رواه
الطبراني في الكبير در حاليه بربتني و قال العذر في الترخيص برواية الطبراني في الكبير بأساند لا يأسن.

(1372 A.H) حَدَّثَنَا مُحَمَّدٌ، states that encouraging women to attend the Jumu'ah Salâh is in conflict with this hadîth.^{۱۵۷}

Imâm Abdur-Razzâq (211 A.H) حَدَّثَنَا مُحَمَّدٌ states in his *Musannaf*:

عَنْ أَبِي عَمْرُو الشَّيَّانِ قَالَ جَاءَ رَجُلٌ فَقَالَ كَانَ يُقَالُ صَلَاةُ الْمُرْأَةِ فِي بَيْتِهَا خَيْرٌ مِّنْ صَلَاةِ مَنْ دَارَهَا فَقَالَ لَهُ أَبْرَرْ عَمْرٌ وَلَمْ تَطُولْ؟ سَعَى رَبُّ هَذِهِ الْمَلَّا يَعْنِي إِبْنَ مَسْعُودٍ بِعِلْمٍ فِي لِعْنَةِ الْمُرْأَةِ فَلَمْ يَعْلَمْ أَنَّ الْمُرْأَةَ قَدْ يَشَتَّتَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْيَمِينِ وَالْيَمِينِ لِأَمْرِهِ حَتَّى يَعْلَمَ أَنَّ حَجَّاً أَوْ عُرْمَةً إِلَّا امْرَأَةٌ قَدْ يَشَتَّتَ مِنْ
^{۱۵۸}
الْبَعْلَةَ فَهِيَ فِي مَنْقِلِهِ، قِيلَ مَا مَنْقَلَهَا؟ قَالَ أَبْرَرْ بَكْرٌ امْرَأَةٌ عَحْزَوْرٌ قَدْ تَقَارِبُ حَطْوَهَا

Translation:

Abû Amr As-Shaybânî says that a man came and said, "It used to be said that a woman's salâh is better in her home than her courtyard. Abû Amr asked him, "Why are you delaying? I heard the master of this house viz. Ibn Mas'ûd taking an oath and emphasizing his oath and saying that no salâh is better for a woman than the one in the house except in hajj and umrah. The exception from this

^{۱۵۷} كفاية الفرق ج ۲ ص ۲۴۴.

^{۱۵۸} أخرجه عبد الرزاق (ج ۲ ص ۱۰۰) عن ثورى عن أبي عمو الشيان وبسط الشيخ حبيب
المرحن الأعظمى أن طرقه في التسلق. ونقل للبيسى في جامع الزرواد ۲۵/۲ رواه الطبرانى في المكتوب (۳۳۹/۱)
ورحاله سرتقون (وهو من طريق عبد الرزاق). له واتظف اعلاء السنن ۲۲۱/۱ وساق من تبويه ابن حزم.

ruling is an old woman that has lost hope due to old age and she is in her *mangal* (socks). It was asked what is her *mangal*. Abū Bakr said it refers to an old woman who takes short steps.

Allāmah Zafar Ahmad Uthmānī (1310-1394 A.H.)

states:

ينفي تقييده بوقت الضرورة كما اذا حضرت المسجد للطواف في الحج والعمرة فلا يلز
مها بأن تصلّى فيه وحدها أو جماعة أو حضرت المسجد النبوي للتسليم والمصلحة على النبي
صلّى الله عليه وسلم فلا يلز لصلاتها في المسجد تحيّة أو مكروبة وأما أن تأتي المسجد
الحرام أو المسجد النبوي لأجل المصلحة فحسب فبيانه قوله صلّى الله عليه وسلم :
صلاتك لستك خير من صلاتك في حجرتك" الى أن قال : ومن صلاتك في مسجدى
وأنت فاعلم."^{١٥٠}

Translation:

This narration has to be confined to the time of necessity. For example, when a woman attends the Musjidul Harām for tawâf during hajj and umrah, there is no harm in performing salâh alone or joining the congregation. Or she attends the Musjidun Nabawî to offer salâm, there is no harm in performing *tahîyyatul musjid salâh* or a fard salâh. However, if she comes to Musjidul Harâm or Musjidun Nabawî with the sole purpose of performing salâh, then this action contradicts the statement of Rasûlullâh ﷺ: "Your salâh in your

inner chamber is better than your salâh in your room..." until he said, "and better than your salâh in my musjid." And Allâh knows best.

Sheikh Muhammad Zakâriyyâ Kândhelwî (1402 A.H) حفظه الله، states in his annotation of *Sahîh Bukhârî*:

١٦٠

كان ابن عمر رضي الله عنه يقوم بمحبب النساء يوم الجمعة بغير جهن من المسجد

Translation:

Abdullâh Ibn Umar رضي الله عنه used to stand up on Fridays and expel the women from the masjid. This occurred in the presence of all the Sahâbah رضي الله عنهم and none of them objected to his practice.

Imâm Abdur-Razzâq (211 A.H) حفظه الله، has narrated the following hadîth in his *Musannaf*:

١٦١

عن أعمش عن إبراهيم قال كن له ثلاثة نساء ما حلت واحدة منها في مسجد الحى

١٦٠

ابن أبي شيبة في مسنده ٢٨١/٢ قال: حدنا وكيع نا سفيان من أئمة قروة للسائل عن أبي
صبرة الشياب قال رأته ابن سبود يحبب النساء بغير جهن من المسجد يوم الجمعة. وانتظر لامع الدواري
ح ١ ص ٣٥٧

Translation:

A'mash أمش, reports that Ibrâhîm Nakha'i نحيم, had three wives and none of them performed salâh in the musjid of the locality.

Âishah أیشہ reports:

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا ثَالِتَ كَانَ نِسَاءُ بَنِ إِسْرَائِيلَ يَخْلُدُنَّ أَرْجُلًا مِنْ خَبْرٍ يَشْرَفُنَّ
لِلرِّجَالِ لِمَسَاجِدِهِ حَرَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِنَّ الْمَسَاجِدَ ...¹⁶²

Translation:

"The women of the Banû Isrâîl used to make wooden stilts to peek at the men in the musjid. As a result, Allâh made the musjids harâm for them ..."

This hadîth indicates that when the intention of the Israelite women became corrupted and they desired evil, Allâh prohibited them from the musjid. Accordingly, the evil and misconduct prevalent after the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ also requires the same judgement to be passed against the attendance of women, namely that they should be prohibited. If

¹⁶¹ المسند لمحمد فرجوي ج ۲ ص ۱۰۰-۱۰۱

¹⁶² المسند لمحمد فرجوي ج ۲ ص ۱۱۹ نقل بخط و المصحح : اخرجه محمد بن سيرين باسناده
صحح دوري من محدثنا ثقة من ابن سيرين مرسود باسناد صحيح

any order of the previous ummats has not been abrogated by Sharī'ah, then it will still be applied in this ummah.^{١٦٣}

The Fuqahā and the Muhaddithīn

The Fuqahā and Muhaddithīn were men of great piety and intellect who followed the Sahābah ﷺ. They lived in the *khairul qurūn* (the best era), having obtained their knowledge and training at the hands of the Sahābah ﷺ and Tābi'īn. What was their attitude to women emerging from their homes to attend the musjid?

The Muhaddith Abdur Razzāq (211 A.H) رحمه الله quotes:

أخرج عبد الرزاق عن عبيد الله بن عمر عن نافع انه كان لا يخرج نسائه في العيد^{١٦٤}

Translation:

“Ubaidullāh Ibn Umar states that Nāfi’ would not allow his wives to attend the Eid Salāh.”

Imām Tirmizi (279 A.H) رحمه الله, narrates:

^{١٦٣} كتابة الفتن ج ٥ ص ٤٢٢

^{١٦٤} المصنف لعبد الرزاق ج ٢ ص ٣٠٣ و أخرج ابن أبي شيبة (١٨٢/٢) حدثنا وكيع عن سفيان عن عبد الله بن حاتم عن نافع عن ابن عمر انه كان لا يخرج نسائه في العيدين.

^{١٦٣} دعوى عن سفيان الثورى أنه كره اليرم الخروج للنساء إلى العيد^{١٦٤}

Translation:

It is reported that Sufyān Thaurī رضى الله عنه, a great scholar of Hadith and a teacher of the *Sihah Sittah* (six authentic compilations of Hadith), disliked the emergence of women nowadays for the Eid Salāh.

Abdullāh Ibn Mubārak (181 A.H) رضى الله عنه, the great Tâbi'i and reputable scholar of Hadith was the teacher of Imām Bukhari (256 A.H). Regarding him, Imām Bukhari رضى الله عنه, writes in his booklet "قرة العينين حزء رفع البدن" ^{١٦٥} :

"Imām Abdullāh Ibn Mubārak رضى الله عنه, was the greatest Ālim (learned man) of his time. If the people, instead of following other less knowledgeable scholars, followed him, it would have been better."

The following quotation has been narrated from Abdullāh Ibn Mubārak رضى الله عنه:

أكره اليرم الخروج للنساء إلى العيدين فإن أبنت المرأة إلا أن تخرج فلياذن لها زوجها أن
^{١٦٦} تخرج لاطمارها ولا تزعن فإن أبنت أن تخرج كذلك فللزوج أن يمنعها عن الخروج

^{١٦٣} حامع الترمذى حدثت ٢٠٠ من ١٦٩٨ و ج ١ من النسخة الالكترونية

^{١٦٤} قرة العينين للبخارى ص ٣٥

^{١٦٧} حامع الترمذى من ١٦٩٨ دار السلام الرياض وتقل قرل عبد الله بن المبارك المأذن ابن عبد البر

Translation:

"I dislike women to emerge nowadays for the Eid Salâhs. If the wife insists on emerging, the husband should permit her to go out in tattered clothing and not beautify herself. If she refuses to go out in that state, the husband may prevent her from emerging."

The Muhaddith, Ibn Khuzaimah رحمه الله، states:

عن عبد الله قال اذا لبست المرأة ثيابها ثم خرجت قبل أربعين فتقول أعد مريضا أو
أصلى على حناعة أو أصلى في مسجد فقيل وما تريدين بذلك فتقول وجه الله والذى لا
الله غيره ما التمست المرأة وجه الله بعثل ان تقرن بيتها وتبعد رها ^{١٦٨}

Translation:

Abdullah states: When a woman wears her clothing and goes out and if she is asked, "Where do you intend going to?", she will reply, "I want to visit the sick or perform janâzah salâh or perform salâh in the musjid." If she is asked, "What is your intention by doing that?" she replies, "To seek the pleasure of Allâh." I take an oath in the name of the Being besides whom no one else is a deity, a woman can never achieve the pleasure of Allâh in

الصحيح . ٢١١ م قال : أرجو العلماء في هذا الباب متقاربة المعنى ويعبرها قول ابن المبارك لا يهتم
بالخلاف لنفسه ويشهد له قول حاشية لرسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ما أحدهن النساء لم يعن
المسجد وضع أسراف الناس اليوم (٤٦٣) وضع فضل صلة المرأة في بيته لتدبر ذلك.

any act like how she does when she remains in the confines of her home and worships her Lord.

رس (Allâmah Taqîud-dîn Ibn Daqîq Al-Id (702 A.H.)^{١٦٩} explains the reason for the women attending the musjid during the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ:

والمقصود بذلك بيان المبالغة في الإختياع واظهار الشمار وقد كان ذلك الرقت أهل
الاسلام في حيز القلة لاحتياج الى المبالغة باخراج العرائق وذوات الخدور^{١٧٠}

Translation:

"The aim was that the congregation be larger in size and that the distinguishing characteristic of Islam be exposed. At that time, the number of Muslims was less. Accordingly, there was a need for allowing the old women and those who were veiled to attend the congregation."

Allâmah Muhammad Yahya Kandhelwî (1334 A.H.)^{١٧١}, writes in *Al-Kaukabud-Durri*:

ولذلك اظهار شرکة المسلمين وتكتير سوادهم وما ينعكس من أنوار ملئائهم على

^{١٧٠}
فروهم

^{١٦٩} احكام الاسكالام طبع مجلدة الاحكام ج ١ من ١٢٢ المجلد الثالث - دار الكتب العلمية - بيروت

^{١٧١} الكرب الدرى على حسام الترمذى - ج ١ من ١٢٢

Translation:

"The benefit of emerging for the Eid Salâh is to display the authority of the Muslims and show their large numbers. Furthermore, the spiritual light and effulgence of the pious can be transposed on to the others."

Allâmah Muhammad Yûsuf Al-Binnorî (1397 A.H.) quotes Imâm Tahâwî (321 A.H) :

كان الأمر بخروجهن أهل الإسلام لتكثير المسلمين في أعين العدو^{١٧١}

Translation:

"The order for women to attend the congregation of Eid during the earlier period of Islam was in order to increase the number of Muslims in the eyes of the disbelievers."

Allâmah Yûsuf Binnorî (1397 A.H.) further goes on to quote the sources of all the different schools of thought after which he says:

وعلم منه أن أصل مذهبنا كما قاله شيخنا جواز الخروج للنساء للعديد غير أنه منعه المشايخ وأرباب الفتوى لفساد الزمان فما يصدر الطعن من المدعين العمل بالحديث على

^{١٧١} معارف السنن للعلامة محمد يوسف البشوري ج ٤ ص ٤٥؛ وقال الامام أبى حفص الطحاوى فيما نقله عنه الجعافرى من تحرير اختلاف العلماء (ج ١ ص ٢٢٣)؛ ويعنى أن يكون ذلك والمسلون قليل فاراد التكثير بحضورهن ارتهاها للعدو واليوم فلا يحتاج إلى ذلك.

المذهب الحنفي في هذه المسألة إنما هو من قلة التدبر والغفلة عن أصل المذهب^{١٧٢}

Translation:

"From this it can be realized that the original verdict of our math-hab as our Sheikh (Allâmah Anwar Shâh Kashmîrî) has stated^{١٧٣} is that it is permissible for women to attend the Eid Salâh except that the Mashâikh and Muftîs have prohibited it due to the corruption of the times. Accordingly, those who claim to practise on the ahâdîth and who have accused the Hanafî Math-hab have done this due to lack of understanding and ignorance of the principles of the math-hab."

Old Women

Among the early Fuqahâ, there existed a difference of opinion regarding the question of old women attending the masjid. While some Fuqahâ maintained that old women may come to the masjid for certain salâh only^{١٧٤}, others averred that they may attend all salâhs. However, regarding

^{١٧٢} أيضاً ص ٤٤٧

^{١٧٣} المرف النذى للعلامة عبد انور شاه الكشميري ص ١١٨

^{١٧٤} روى أبو حنيفة عن حماد عن إبراهيم عن الشعبي عن ابن عمر أن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم رخص ل المرأة لصلاة النساء والمناء الأئرة للنساء ... عفرد الجواهر البهية - للإمام مرتضى الزيدى ج ١ ص ٧١ - النسخة الباكتانية

women who are of marriageable age, the ruling of prohibition is emphatic.

The following ruling is recorded in *Al-Hidâyah*:

ويكره لهن حضور الجماعة يعني الشواب منهن لما فيه من خوف الفتنة ولا يأس للعجز

^{١٧٥} أن تخرج في الفجر والمغرب والعشاء

Translation:

"It is *makrûh* for young women to be present for *Jamâ'ah* (that is, *salâh* in the *musjid*). However, old women may come for *Fajr*, *Maghrib* and *Ishâ* according to Imâm Abû Hanîfah رضي الله عنه. According to Imâm Abû Yûsuf and Imâm Muhammad رضي الله عنهما, it is permissible for old women to attend the *musjid* for all *salâhs*."

Other Schools of Thought

The ruling of the *Shâfi'i* Math-hab is as follows:

وحكى الرافعى وجها أنه لا يستحب لهن الخروج بهال . ثم قال وهذا كله حكم العجاجizer
اللوائى لا يشتهين وأما الشابة وذات الجمال ومن تشتهى فيكره لهن الحضور لما في ذلك

^{١٧٦} من حرف الفتنة عليهن وهن

Translation:

Râfi'i has narrated that it is not preferable at all for women to emerge. This is with regards to old women who do not incite desire in males. As for young girls, attractive women and those who arouse desires, it is makrûh for them to attend the congregation due to misconduct either due to them or due to others.

Allâmah Ainî (855 A.H) ^{مسند}, writes about the Mâlikî Math-hab:

^{١٧٧} وعن مالك أن ملسا الحديث ونحوه عمن على العجائز

Translation:

According to Imâm Mâlik (179 A.H) ^{مسند}, the ahâdîth indicating permissibility apply only to old women.^{١٧٨}

Accordingly, the Mâlikî Math-hab is similar to

^{١٧٦} شرح المهدى كمال سازف السنن ج ١ ص ٤٤٦

^{١٧٧} محدث القارى شرح صحيح البخارى ج ٦ ص ١٥٧

^{١٧٨} لامع الدرارى على حامى البخارى ج ١ ص ٣٥٧

what Allāmah Aini حفظها، has mentioned in Umdatul Qāzi in that old women are permitted while young girls are not.²²

The Hanbali Math-hab has the following ruling:

خروج النساء يوم العيد ليس بالضروري حرث غير مسبح قد وكرهه البعض ويجزئ
الأصلى ... وستيقن ولكن ثالثة ... وكرهوا الشذوذ في خروجهن من المساجد

Translation:

"The emergence of women for the Eid Salāh is permissible but not preferable. Ibrāhīm Nakhā'i, Yāzhī Ansārī, Sufyān and Ibnu'l Mubārak have regarded it as makrūh. It is also makrūh for young women to emerge due to misconduct."

This is the view held generally by the early Fuqahā of Islam. However, the later Fuqahā expanded on the prohibition to include all women, even women of old age. In view of the deterioration in the morals of people and the rise of vice, the Fuqahā upheld the total prohibition of women attending the masjid.

Sheikh Muhammad Ibn Mahmūd Akmalud-Dīn Al-Bābarī حفظها، writes in his annotation of *Al-Hidāyah*:

²² شرح ١ ص ١٠٠

²³ شرح ٢ ص ٣٣

^{٢٣} وَلِقْرَى الْبَرِّ عَلَى كُرَافَةِ حَنْوَمٍ فِي الصَّلَاةِ كَبَّ لِتَبُورِ شَدَّادٍ

Translation:

"Today the verdict is that it is makrūh for women to attend all salāhs due to the prevalence of immorality."

Allāmah Aīnī (855 AH) ^م, writes:

^{٢٤} وَجَدَهُنْ سبًّ لِتَحْرِمِ دِمَاجَضِي مَذْكُورَهُمْ فَحَرَمُ

Translation:

"Their emergence is a cause of harām and whatever leads to harām is also harām."

A similar statement can be found in Allāmah Al-^مud-Dīn Al-Kāṣānī's (587 AH) *Al-Badī'is-Sanā'i'*.^{٢٥}

^{٢٣} الحنة شرح الشافية بفتح القدير در نکت العتبة ج ١ ص ٣٣

^{٢٤} كتاب شرح شافية ج ٢ ص ١١٢

^{٢٥} كتب ملحق لكتاب زندقة الشرفج ج ١ ص ١٥٢ - لمحة م سيد كعب - كراتشي -

Hâfiż Ibn Hajar Asqalânî (852 A.H) states:

ان حيث كان في خروجهن اختلاط بالرجال في المسجد أو طريقه أو قربه عشيّة الفتن
عليهن لزيهنهن ونحرجهن حرم عليهن الخروج ... ووجب على الامام أو نائبه منعهن عن

^{١٨٤} ذلك

Translation:

"When intermingling with males prevails, whether in the masjid or on the roads or there exists the danger of misdemeanour because of women's adornment and displays of beauty, then it is forbidden for them to emerge ... it is incumbent on the Imâm or his representative to prevent women from emerging."

Allâmah Ibn Humâm (869 A.H) said:

عزم المتأخرون النع للعجايز والشواب في الصلوات كلها لغبة الفساد في سائر

^{١٨٥} الأرقان

باقستان.

^{١٨٤} لامع الدراري ج ١ ص ٣٥٧

^{١٨٥} نفع القدير شرح المذاهب ج ١ ص ٣٧٦

Translation:

"The latter Fuqahâ have stated that the prohibition includes young as well as old women. The prohibition applies to all the salâhs because of the danger of the prevalence of unchaste behaviour at all times."

Mullâ Ali Qârî (1014 A.H.) رحمه الله، states "":

والمحظى منع العجوز عن حضور الجماعة في جميع الأوقات فضلاً عن الشابة لما روى
البخاري عن يحيى بن سعيد عن عمرة عن عائشة رضي الله عنها أنها قالت لو أدرك رسول
الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ما أحدث النساء لعنهن كما منعت نساء بني إسرائيل قلت لعنة
أو منعن؟ قالت نعم. وتقول عائشة ترفعه أيها الناس أهوا نساءكم عن لبس الزينة
والتبختر في المساجد فان بني إسرائيل لم يلعنوا حتى لبس نساعهم الزينة وتبخترن في
المسجد

Translation:

"The preferred view is that old women should be prevented from attending the congregation at all times, let alone young girls because of the hadîth which Imâm Bukhârî رحمه الله، has narrated from Âishah رضي الله عنها that if Rasûlullâh had to witness the conduct of the women, he would have prohibited them from the masjid as the women of the Banû Isrâîl were prohibited. Yahyâ Ibn Sa'îd رحمه الله، (the narrator of the hadîth) asked Umrah whether the women of the

Daud Israfil were prohibited and she replied in the affirmative. Then Alshabih ^{as} reports that Rasulullah ^{as} said, "O people, prevent your women from wearing clothes of beauty and arrogance in the masjid for verily the Daud Israfil were not cursed until their women adorned themselves with attractive clothing and proudly showed off in the mosques."

Allamah Muhibud-Din Ahsan (855 A.H) ^{ra}, states ⁱⁱⁱ:

جَعْلُهُنَّ مُحَرَّمًا لِكُلِّ صَلَاةٍ إِذَا دَخَلْتُمُ الْمَسْجِدَ فَلَا يَأْتِي بِكُلِّ حِلْمٍ وَلَا يَغْتَرِبُ
عَنْهُنَّ أَنْتُمْ تَرَوْهُنَّ سَاجِدَاتٍ مُؤْمِنَاتٍ مُهَبِّتَاتٍ
كُلُّ حِلْمٍ وَلَا يَغْتَرِبُ

Translation:

"Today the verdict is that women be prohibited from all salaths and this includes Jummah, the two Ids, Salatul Ishaq and the congregations of lectures especially those ignorant creators who imitate the Ulama but their aim is merely to satisfy their carnal desires and earn secular wealth."

It is mentioned in Kitabat Sharighat:

ⁱⁱⁱ مَنْ جَعَلَهُنَّ مُحَرَّمًا لِكُلِّ صَلَاةٍ إِذَا دَخَلْتُمُ الْمَسْجِدَ

ⁱⁱ مَنْ جَعَلَهُنَّ مُحَرَّمًا

ⁱⁱⁱ مَنْ جَعَلَهُنَّ مُحَرَّمًا

Translation:

"Today the *fatawa* is that it is *makrūh* for women to attend any *salah* due to the appearance of misconduct."

Allāmah Ibn Abīdīn As-Shāfi'ī (1203 A.D) also states:

عَلَيْهِ الْحُكْمُ مِنْ أَنْ يَقُولُوا إِنَّمَا يُنْهَا عَنِ الصَّلَاةِ لِأَنَّهُنْ مُنْكَرٌ
"It is makrūh for women to attend the congregation even though it be Jumu'ah or Eid or a lecture and even it is an old lady at night. This is the accepted verdict due to the corruption of the times."

Translation:

"It is *makrūh* for women to attend the congregation even though it be Jumu'ah or Eid or a lecture and even it is an old lady at night. This is the accepted verdict due to the corruption of the times."

Allāmah Zainud-Dīn Ibn Nujaim رحمه اللہ از اور نویسنده Al-Bahrur Ridīq ^{رحمه اللہ از}، writes in *Al-*

الْبَهْرُورِ الرِّدِيقِ بِالْجَوَافِيدِ الْمُفَوَّذَاتِ

Translation:

"Today the verdict is that it is *makrūh* for women to attend all the *salaths* due to the emergence of corruption."

¹⁰⁰ مکرہ شرعاً

¹⁰¹ محدثون روى أن المنهى عن الصلاة لمن يحيى العيادة

Imām Bukhārī (256 A.H) رحمه الله، has narrated the following hadīth^{۱۹۱}:

عَنْ عَمِّ عَرَوْضَى أَنَّهُ عَنْهُمَا عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ إِنَّمَا سَأَذْنُكُمْ نَاسَكُمْ
تَقْرِبَ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ فَأَذْنُوا مِنْ

Translation:

Abdullah bin Umar رضي الله عنهما reports that Nabi ﷺ said: “When your women seek permission to come to the Musjid at night, then you should grant them permission.”

Moulānā Khalil Ahmad Saharanpuri (1346 A.H) رحمه الله، writes:

وَفِيهِ أَنَّهُ يَبَيِّنُ أَنَّ يَأْذِنَ لَهَا وَلَا يَعْنِي هَذَا مَا فِيهِ مُنْفَعَتُهَا وَذَلِكَ إِذَا لَمْ يَعْنِي فَنَسْخَةً عَلَيْهَا وَلَا مَا
وَقَدْ كَانَ هُوَ الْأَغْلَبُ فِي فَلَكِ الزَّمَانِ^{۱۹۲}

Translation:

The above Hadith indicates that if a woman seeks permission at night, the request should be accepted and

^{۱۹۱} صحيح البخاري ج ۱ ص ۱۷۲ مدار السلام - الرياض د ح ۱ ص ۱۱۹ فنسخة لاكستبة

^{۱۹۲} حاشية الشيخ أسد على تمهيد سورى على صحيح البخاري ج ۱ ص ۱۱۹ . فنسخة لاكستبة

she should not be prevented from attending if there is benefit for her. This permission should only be granted if there exists no possibility of immorality from others or from her. This was the prevalent condition at that time."

Hence, Allāmah Badrud-dīn Aini (855 A.H) ^{محدث}, the commentator of *Sahīh Bukhārī*, states:

وقد ثنا أن المطلق في ذلك عابر على المقيد وفيه أنه ينبغي أن يأخذن ما لا يجتنبها مما فيه
سقحتها وفلك بغا لم يخف الفتنة عليها ولا ما ورد كان هو الأغلب في ذلك الزمان
خلاف زماننا هنا فإن النساء في فلسف وللسعدون كثيرون^{١٣٣}

Translation:

"And we state that the permission (mentioned in the hadith) refers to specific permission i.e. in those narrations in which the word "night" is not mentioned, it is implied. Similarly, (the above) indicates that where there exists benefit for a woman, she should be given permission and not be prevented. However, this applies to that time or period when there is no possibility of immorality nor is there any possibility of another falling into immorality due to her. This (safety from immorality) was prevalent at that time (i.e. the time of the Sahābah رض), unlike our era wherein evil and vice is very widespread and promiscuous people are in abundance."

The author of *Lâmiud-Darârî*, Sheikh Zakariyyâ (1402 A.H) رحمه الله، asks,

إذا كان ذاك في زمان العلامة العيّن المترقب في سنة حسن وحسين ولما مات فماذا ترى

^{١٩٤} ل زماننا هذا الملل بالشروع والفساد

Translation:

"When this (rampant misconduct) was the situation during the time of Allâmah Badrud-dîn Ainî who passed away in the year 855 A.H. then what do you think of the present age saturated with impropriety?"

Imâm Bukhârî (256 A.H) رحمه الله، has narrated the following hadîth in his sahîh:

عن الزهر بن عدی قال أتينا انس بن مالك فشكروا اليه ما يلقون من الحاج فقال
اصلروا لانه لا يأتى عليكم زمان الا الذي بعده شر منه حق تلقوا ربيكم سمعت من نبيكم

^{١٩٥} صلى الله عليه وسلم

Translation:

^{١٩٤} لامع الدردارى على حاسن البخارى ج ١ ص ٣٥٩

^{١٩٥} صحيح البخارى حدثت ٦٠٦٨ ص ٦٥٩ دار السلام وج ٢ ص ١٠١٧ النسخة الالكترونية

Zubair Ibn Adî ﷺ narrates that he came to Anas Ibn Mâlik ﷺ complaining to him about the oppression of Hajjâj. Anas ﷺ replied, "Be patient for indeed every era will be succeeded by one worse than the previous one until you meet your Lord. I heard this from your prophet (Rasûlullâh) ﷺ."

Hâfiż Ibn Abdul Barr (463 A.H) رحمه الله، states:

روي دليل على أن أحوال الناس تغيرت بعد موت رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم
ناء ورجالاً وروى عن أبي سعيد الخدري أنه قال ما نقضنا أيامها عن قبر
رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم حتى انكرنا قبورنا.^{١٩٦}

Translation:

This hadîth (of Âishah ﷺ) indicates that the condition of the people, men and women, had changed after Rasûlullâh ﷺ. It is narrated by Abû Sa'îd Khudrî ﷺ who said, "We had not yet dusted our hands off the grave of Rasûlullâh ﷺ when we perceived a change in our hearts."

Who can deny the existence of the worst types of misconduct in our age? If anyone chooses to be become blind and deny the existence of the evil predominant in our times, should peruse the statement of Allâmah Ajînî (855 A.H) رحمه الله، the commentator of *Sahîh Bukhârî*, who lived in the eighth century of Islam:

لو شاهدت عائشة رضي الله عنها ما أحدث نساء هذا الزمان من أنواع البدع والمنكرات لكان أشد إنكارا ولا سيما نساء مصر فإن فيهن بدع لا توصف ومنكرات لا تمنع منها نيمهن من أنواع الحرير المنسوجة أطراها من الذهب والمرصعة باللآلئ وأنواع الجواهر وما على رءوسهن من الأقراص المذهبة المرصعة باللآلئ والجواهر الثمينة والناديل الحرير المنسوج بالذهب والفضة المدودة وقصافن أنواع الحرير الواسعة الأكمام جدا السابلة أذياها على الأرض مقدار أذرع كثيرة بحيث يمكن أن يجعل من تعيس واحد ثلاثة فمثان وأكثر ومنها مشبهن في الأسواق في ثياب فاخرة وهن متبرجات متطرفات مائلات متبرجات متزاحمات مع الرجال مكشوفات الوجه في غالب الأوقات. ومنها ركوبهن على الحمير الفرة وأكمامهن سابلة من الجانبين في أزر رفيعة جدا. ومنها ركوبهن على سرائب في نيل مصر وخلجانها منتطلبات بالرجال وبعضهن يغتنى بأصوات عالية مطربة والأقداح تدور بينهن. ومنها غلبتهن على الرجال وقهقرهن إياهم وحكمهن عليهم بأمور شديدة. ومنهن نساء يعن المنكرات بالأجهار ويختلطن الرجال فيها. ومنهن قروادات يفسدن الرجال والنساء ويمشين بينهن بما لم يرض به الشرع. ومنهن صنف يغایبا قاعدات مترصدات للفساد ومنهن صنف دائرات على أرجلهن يصطدبن الرجال. ومنهن سوارق من الدر والحمامات. ومنهن صنف سواحر يسحرن وينفنن في العقد. ومنهن بياعات في الأسواق يتبعاً بطالن بالرجال. ومنهن دلالات نصابات على النساء. ومنهن صنف نوائح ودقائقات يرتکبن هذه الأمور القبيحة بالأجرة. ومنهن مغنيات يغبنن بأنواع الملامي بالأجرة للرجال والنساء. ومنهن صنف خطابات يخطبون للرجال نساء لها أزواج يرقعنها بينهم وغير ذلك من الأصناف الكثيرة الخارجة عن قواعد الشريعة. فانظر إلى ما قالت الصديقة رضي الله عنها من قوله لو أدرك رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ما أحدث النساء وليس بين هذا القول وبين وفاة النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم إلا مدة بحرة

على أن نساء ذلك الزمان ما أحذن جزءاً من ألف جزء مما أحدثت نساء هذا الزمان¹⁹⁷

Translation:

"If Aisha رض had to witness the evils and innovations of this era (the eighth century), her rejection would be more vehement. The women of Egypt in particular, are involved in such innovations which cannot be described. And they are immersed in such evils which cannot be prevented. From amongst the innovations they are involved in, some are:

- they don garments of silk fabric whose edges are gilded and which are studded with gems and pearls.
- their hair is adorned with golden beads studded with expensive pearls and gems while their silken scarves are woven with golden and silver threads.
- their dresses are manufactured from all kinds of silk with extremely broad sleeves, while metres upon metres of the tails are lowered to the ground to such an extent that three dresses or more can be sewn from one dress.
- they parade the shopping malls with exquisite clothing, strutting around heavily soaked in perfume, enticing others and prancing around men with their faces open most of the time.
- they ride on the finest donkeys with their sleeves hanging down from both sides while they are wrapped

in delicate and fine shawls.

- they travel on different conveyances in the Nile River while it is filled with males.
- some of them sing with delightful and charmingly high-pitched voices while the goblets circulate among them.
 - they have overpowered the men and are ruling them by making all kinds of extreme demands.
 - among them are women who sell evil items with loud voices and they intermingle with males.
 - among them are leaders who corrupt males and females and walk among them in ways which are contrary to the Sharî'ah.
 - among them are prostitutes and models who conjure evil.
 - some of them roam about in lure of males.
 - some of them steal from the public baths.
 - others are magicians that practise magic and blow in knots.
 - some of them are merchants in the markets yelling out with the males.
 - some are women brokers and agents procuring the services of women.
 - some of them lament and play drums for a fee.
 - some are paid singers who sing and entertain men and women.
 - others entice males for married women and create all kinds of dissensions.

These are some of the evils and sins the women are

involved in. Now examine the statement of Âishah رض in this light. Yet the interval between the time of Âishah's رض rejection of this practice (of females attending the musjid) and Rasûlullâh's ﷺ is very little.

The wrongs which the women during the time of Âishah رض had introduced are not even one thousandth when compared to the evils which they have introduced in this time (namely, the eighth century)."

Ibn Hajar Haithamî رحمه اللہ, an authority of the Shâfi'i Mazhab, states:

"... the statement of Imâm Ghazâlî (505 A.H) رحمه اللہ, in Ihyâul-'Ulûm : 'It is obligatory to prohibit women from attending the musjid for salâh, for sessions of knowledge and for zikr when there is the danger of indecency as a result of them. Verily, Âishah رض forbade them. It was then said to her: Verily, Rasûlullâh ﷺ did not forbid them from congregational prayer. She replied, "If Rasûlullâh ﷺ knew what the women have introduced after him, then most certainly, he would have prevented them.'"

Conforming to this, is the statement of Ibn Khuzaimah رحمه اللہ, who is among our (Shâfi'i) senior authorities:

'The salâh of a woman in her home is superior to her salâh in the musjid of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. . . Now when her salâh at home is superior, then the object which brings her out of her home (to perform salâh in the musjid) is

either pride or show or harâm.'

There is unanimity regarding the prohibition of women going to the musjid, Eid salâh and visiting the graves because of the absence of the conditions of permissibility which had existed during the age of Nabi ﷺ.

Hujjatul Islam, Imâm Ghazâlî (505 A.H) حجۃ, says in *Al-Ihyâ* in the chapter dealing with enjoining the good:

^{١٩٨} و يجب منع النساء من حضور المساجد للصلوة وبمحالس الذكر إذا عيّفت الفتنة من

'It is obligatory to prohibit women from attending the masjids for salâh and zikr when misconduct in regard to them is feared. The evils of their emergence today are established facts... The correct view is that prohibition is absolute and the fatwâ is this prohibition. This is the summary of our (Shâfi'i Mazhab).' ^{١٩٩}

With regard to the gathering of zikr i.e. a discourse to the women, this is permissible as established from the following hadîth^{٢٠٠} of Rasûlullâh ﷺ:

^{١٩٨} إحياء العلوم ج ٢ ص ٢٠٨

^{١٩٩} الترمذى الكجرى لابن حجر المىشى

^{٢٠٠} صحيح البخارى ج ١ ص ٢٠ النسخة الباكتريانية

عن أبي سعيد الخدري رضي الله عنه قال قال النساء للنبي صلى الله عليه وسلم غلبنا عليك الرجال فما جعل لنا يوما من نفسك فرعدهن يوما لقيهن فيه فروعظهن وامرمن ...

Abū Saîd Khudrî ﷺ reports that the women said to Rasûlullâh ﷺ, "The men have overpowered us. (that is, they attend your gatherings every day and we are deprived). Therefore, specify one day in particular for advising us." Rasûlullâh ﷺ promised to address them on a particular day in which he would advise them and command them (with the orders of Sharîah).

Hâfiẓ Ibn Hajar (852 A.H) حفظه الله, has quoted a similar hadîth²⁰¹ of Abû Hurairah ﷺ which contain the following words:

موعدهن بيت نلاج

Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "I promise to address you at the house of so and so." He then fulfilled his promise by addressing the women there.

Imâm Bukhâri (256 A.H) حفظه الله, has used this hadîth to prove that it is permissible for a learned person to address the women at someone's house. The conditions of hijâb will obviously apply here as well. However, if misconduct is perceived on the part of anyone, it will not

²⁰¹ لمع الباري ج ١ ص ١٥٨ دار إحياء التراث العربي - بيروت

be permissible to conduct such lectures.

The slight departure from piety and hijâb which had commenced even in the era of the Sahâbah ﷺ constrained them to prohibit women from going to the masjid in spite of them being fully aware that women used to visit the masjid during the time of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Since they detected the beginning of the process of corruption and they discerned the gradual abandonment of the very strict conditions which accompanied the original permissibility, the Sahâbah ﷺ initiated this prohibition. Rasûlullâh ﷺ has commanded obedience to his Sahâbah ﷺ and has described the sunnah of his Sahâbah as his sunnah, the prohibition enacted by the Sahâbah is in actual fact the sunnah of Nabi ﷺ. It is the law of Allâh. Only a person with a deficient mental capacity can deny such a divine prohibition.

Some Ghair Muqallidîn try to dupe the masses by saying that the prohibition of the Sahâbah ﷺ does not hold any weight in the face of the permission granted by Rasûlullâh ﷺ. However, this is a mere deception. The statement of the Sahabah ﷺ will only be not acceptable in the presence of a hadîth if there is a contradiction between both and the contradiction cannot be reconciled. This is not the case here. The permission of Rasûlullâh ﷺ was at the time of non-existence of misconduct while the prohibition of the Sahâbah ﷺ was due to the existence of misdemeanour as mentioned previously in

the narration of A'ishah رضي الله عنها. Accordingly, there remains no contradiction in the statement of Rasūlullāh صلوات الله عليه وسلم and the prohibition of the Sahābah رضي الله عنهم.

Sheikh Abdul Haqq Muhaddith Dehlawī رحمه الله, states. "For women today, to come to the Musjid to perform salāt with jamāt is *makrūh* as there is a danger of *fitnah* (immorality and promiscuity). During the time of Nabi صلوات الله عليه وسلم, they came to attain the teachings and guidelines of Shariat and this need no longer remains as the laws of Shariat are generally found in books etc. It will be more appropriate for women to remain in *hijāb* (veil)." ²²²

This is the view that the Jurists have adopted i.e. now-a-days for women to attend the Jamāt (congregation), whether it be for the five daily salāt, the Jumu'ah or both the Eid salāts, is *makrūh* (reprehensible). Allāmah Zainud-Dīn Ibn Nujaim رحمه الله, states:

وَلَا يُعْظِرْنَ النِّسَاءَ لِقِرْلَهِ تَمَالِ رِقْنَهِ فِي بِرْتَكَنِ وَلَفْتَرِي الْيَوْمِ عَلَى الْكُرْلَهِ فِي الصَّلَاةِ

²²³
كُلُّهَا لِظُهُورِ الْفَسَادِ

Translation:

"Women should not attend the congregation due to

²²² ائمۃ الائمهات ص ۲۲۲

²²³ محرر الفتن ح ۱ ص ۸۰۸

the statement of Allâh, “And remain within your homes.” The verdict today is that it is makrûh to attend any of the salâhs due to the emergence of misconduct.’

From the above narrations^{۲۰۴}, we deduce the following:

- The tribe of Banû Sâ'îd (بَنْو سَعِيد) had already prevented their women from attending the musjid during the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Rasûlullâh ﷺ did not reproach the husbands in any way. On the contrary, he encouraged the women to perform salâh at home.
- Certain Sahâbah رضي الله عنه like Ibn Mas'ûd and Ibn Umar رضي الله عنه used to forcefully prevent the women from entering the musjid in the presence of other Sahâbah because the era of corruption had begun. No Sahâbî prevented them from doing this nor did anyone mention any opposing hadîth to confront their action.
- During the blessed era of Nabi ﷺ, it was not stressed

^{۲۰۴} For more details, refer to Ad-Durrul Mukhtâr with Shâmi - Vol 1 Pg 529, Âlamghâri, Vol 1 Pg 56, Al-Bahr-ur-Râiq, Vol 1 Pg 358, Rasâ'ilul Arkân, Pg 100, Badâ'i-us-Sanâ'i, Vol 1 Pg 175, Fatawa Rahimiyah, Vol 5 Pg 56/71

upon women to attend the Musjid. Permission was merely granted, and such advice was rendered that women themselves refrained from attending the Musjid.

- Permission (to attend the Musjid) was dependant on the permission granted by the husbands. Women were not allowed to attend the Musjid without the consent of their husbands.
- From the narration of *Sahîh Bukhârî*, it is evident that permission was only granted for the salât performed during the night and for Fajr.
- Consent is applicable when the woman does not apply perfume and adorn herself. There was no consent for the woman who applied perfume or adorned herself.
- Permission to attend the Masâjid was at the time when there was no possibility of *fitnah* (immorality). No consent was granted during the times of *fitnah*. In fact, at the time of *fitnah*, Nabi's ﷺ advice was that women should be prevented from coming to the Musjid as mentioned previously in the narration of Ibn Mâjah.

In conformance to the words and desire of Nabi ﷺ, the women during his blessed era also used to perform their salât at their houses as has been proven from the Hadith of the burning of the houses as mentioned previously.

Shâh Waliullâh writes²⁰⁵:

ومنها خوف فتنة كامرأة أصابت بنورا ولا اختلاف بين قوله صلى الله عليه وسلم إذا استأذنت امرأة أحدكم إلى المسجد فلا يمنعها وبين ما حكم به جمهر الصحابة من منعهن إذا ألهى عنه الغيرة التي تبعث من الآثمة دون خوف الفتنة والجائز من الغيرة ما فيه خرف الفتنة ...

Hadrat Shâh Waliyullâh Muhaddith Dehlawî, in his book, *Hujjatullâhil Bâlighah*, has mentioned the practice of the Sahaba ﷺ of preventing women from coming to the Masâjid. Thereafter, he mentions the objection that Nabi ﷺ had ordered that women should not be prevented from coming. So what was the reason for the Sahaba ﷺ preventing them? He answers by saying that there is no difference between the Hadith and the action of the Sahaba ﷺ because the zeal and fervour that arises merely due to pride and due to which women are prevented is not permissible. However, the zeal arising due to fitnah (dissension) is permissible, if not commendable. (The Sahâbah ﷺ prevented the women due to this permissible fervour and zeal.) "

²⁰⁵ حجۃ اللہ البالغہ ج ۲ ص ۶۶ تدبی کتب خانہ - کراتشی - ۴ گلستان

Conclusion

The Ghair Muqallidîn who emphasize the fact that women should attend the musjid for congregational prayer perhaps regard the Imâm of their musjid to be more pious than Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Perhaps they regard their musjids to be more sanctified than Musjidun Nabawî, their era to be superior to the era of the Sahâbah ؓ and their women to be more chaste than the Sahâbiyyât and Tâbi'îyyât.

If this is not the case, then why do they (the Ghair Muqallidîn) emphasize something so vehemently which Rasûlullâh ﷺ did not emphasize and which the Sahâbah ؓ opposed. The Ghair Muqallidîn, are so vehement in their stance on this issue that they regard it as permissible to abuse and villify the Fuqahâ and cause dissension (*fitnah*) in the mosques.

In the present era of moral decay, only the Ghair Muqallids are under the false impression that the women of today will not beautify themselves, apply make-up, apply perfume and powder and wear skin-tight and transparent clothing, keep their gazes low and the gazes of the onlookers will also remain low.

In short, the jurists have prohibited women from attending the musjid due to moral decay that is prevalent in society. When the Sahâbah ؓ already

perceived this decay in their era which was morally excellent, who can deny the existence of promiscuity today? And which Qur'anic verse or hadîth emphasizes attending the musjid for women during an era of moral decay and perversion?

Women should not become despondent from the fact they have been prohibited from the musjid. In fact, they should be pleased that Allâh has granted them the same reward by sitting at home. Without attending the musjid, Allâh ﷺ will grant them the same reward as the person who performs salâh in Musjidun-Nabawî. Just as Allâh has made certain actions like jihâd, Imâmat etc. specific with men, so too was the congregation emphasized for them. Just as they have been prohibited from desiring the bounty which Allâh granted to men, so too should they not desire this bounty as well. In reality, it is our duty to subject any act, no matter how noble it may seem, to the desire of Allâh and His Messenger ﷺ. Whatever Allâh ﷺ and His Messenger ﷺ have deemed better for us, we should regard it as such. Let us not allow our emotions to get the better of us. Rasûlullâh ﷺ has clearly indicated that the salâh of women is more virtuous at home. The obedience of women would therefore be to regard the performance of salâh at home as better for them and to discard the thought that attending the musjid will carry greater rewards.

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GLOSSARY

A	
ahâdîth	the statements, actions or approval of any act of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Singular hadîth.
azân	the call to prayer
athar	the statement or action of a Sahâbî
aurah	the private parts of the body which need to be covered
D	
du'â	supplication or invocation
F	
Fajr	the pre-dawn prayer
fard	obligatory
fatwâ	legal verdict
Fuqahâ	jurists
H	
hajj	pilgrimage
haram	the sacred precincts of the Ka'bah
harâm	unlawful
I	
ihrâm	the sheets donned by the pilgrim
Imâm	leader especially in prayer, also a learned scholar
imâmat	the act of leading the prayer
iqâmah	the minor call to prayer recited before the obligatory prayer
Ishâ	the night prayer

J	
jahri	the salâh in which the Qur'ân is recited aloud
jamâ'ah	congregation
janâzah	the corpse or the prayer related to it
jumu'ah	the Friday prayer
K	
kafn	burial shroud
khimâr	the veil used to cover the face
M	
mahram	a relative who one cannot marry
Maghrib	the evening prayer performed after sunset
makrûh	abominable and disliked act in Sharî'ah
makrûh tahrîmî	an act whose detestability is not established by categoric proof. It is closer to harâm and is a sinful act. The perpetrator is liable for punishment.
makrûh tanzîhî	A lessor category of makrûh that is closer to permissibility. The perpetrator is not liable for punishment. However, one should also abstain from such acts as they can lead to unlawful acts.
Mashâikh	title of scholars trained in the traditional sciences, singular Sheikh
Muftî	one who issues legal verdicts

muazzin	one who calls out the azân
muhaddith	a scholar of hadîth, plural: muhaddithîn
munqati'	a chain of narrators that has an interruption where one of the links is missing
muqtadî	one who follows the Imâm in salâh
musjid	mosque, plural musâjid
mutawâtil	a statement narrated by such a large group of people from generation to generation that one cannot call them liars
N	
nafl	optional
nikâh	marriage
Q	
qadâ	an act which makes amends for one that is missed
qa'dah	sitting position
qiblah	direction facing the Ka'bah
qirâ'ah	recitation of the Qur'ân
R	
rak'ah	one unit of salâh
rukû	a posture of salâh in which one bows down
S	
saff	the rows of worshippers
sajdah	prostration
salâm	the act of completing the salâh
Sahâbah	the companions of Rasûlullâh ﷺ

Sahâbîyyah	a female companion of Rasûlullâh ﷺ
Shaytân	satan
shâz	non-canonical
Sheikh	title of a scholar trained in the traditional sciences
Sûrah	a chapter of the Qur'ân
Sûrah Fâtihah	the opening chapter of the Qur'ân
T	
Tâbi'în	the generation of Muslims that succeeded the Sahâbah ﷺ. Singular Tâbi'î, female: Tâbi'îyyah.
Taba-Tâbi'în	the generation of Muslims that succeeded the Tâbi'în
takbîr of tashrif	the words recited during the days of Eid
talâq	divorce
tasbîh	reciting Subhânallâh etc.
tashâhhud	the dua to be recited when in the sitting position in salâh
U	
Ulamâ	scholars of Islamic knowledge
W	
wudû	ablution

والحمد لله الذي يغسله نعم الصالحات وينزقه بولق العبد للطاعات والصلة والسلام
علي من بعث بالآيات البينات

Translation:

“And all praises are due to Allâh through whose grace pious deeds are completed and through whose granting of capability, a person can perform acts of obedience. Blessings and salutations upon the prophet who was sent with clear signs.”

